

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE CORRECTIONS AND JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Pat Colloton at 1:30 p.m. on February 26, 2009, in Room 535-N of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Jason Thompson, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Jill Wolters, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Athena Andaya, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Jerry Donaldson, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Jackie Lunn, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Tom Drees, Kansas Sentencing Commission Proportionality Chair
Tom Stanton, Deputy District Attorney, Reno County
Mark Gleeson, Office of Judicial Administration
Chris Biggs, Kansas Securities Commissioner
Jennifer Roth, Kansas Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers

Others attending:

See attached list.

HB 2332 - Recodification of certain drug crimes; quantities of drugs; proportionality of sentencing.

Chairperson Colloton opened the meeting by recognizing Tom Drees, Kansas Sentencing Commission Proportionality Chair, to continue his testimony from yesterday as a proponent of **HB 2332**. Mr. Drees provided more information on the proportionality proposal on the bill. (Attachment 1) He continued his testimony on the changes in the sentencing grid while taking questions from the Committee.

Chairperson Colloton asked Mr. Drees if he could find a stopping point and step aside for a few minutes to allow Chris Biggs, Kansas Securities Commissioner, to give his testimony as an opponent of the bill because he would not be available to give his testimony with the remaining opponents on tomorrow. Mr. Drees stepped aside.

Chairperson Colloton introduced Chris Biggs, Kansas Securities Commissioner, to give his testimony as an opponent of **HB 2332**. Commissioner Biggs provided written copy of his testimony. (Attachment 2) He stated he is in opposition to this bill because of the provision in section 26, page 34, relating to the reduction of punishment for securities fraud violations. In closing he urged the Committee to amend the bill to remove section 26 and leave sentencing levels for securities crimes alone.

A question and answer session followed.

Chairperson Colloton called on Mr. Drees to continue with his testimony explaining the changes in the grid. During his testimony he called the Committee's attention to an amendment relating to domestic battery he was offering on the bill. (Attachment 3) He explained the amendment.

A lengthy discussion followed regarding the grid and the amendment he was offering.

Chairperson Colloton announced the remaining opponents and neutral party would testify tomorrow and the meeting time was going to be moved up to 11:00 a.m. since it would be Friday. She adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m. with the next meeting scheduled for February 27, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. in room 535 N.