

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMERCE AND LABOR COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steve Brunk at 9:00 a.m. on March 3, 2009, in Room 784 of the Docking State Office Building.

All members were present except:

Representative Jo Ann Pottorff- excused

Committee staff present:

Renaë Jefferies, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Daniel Yoza, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Jerry Donaldson, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Dennis Hodgins, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Renaë Jefferies, Assistant Revisor
Matt Fletcher, InterHab & State Use Committee
Ron Passmore, KETCH
Natalie Bright, Coalition for Opportunity

Others attending:

See attached list.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steve Brunk at 9:00 a.m. He opened the hearing on **SB 77**.

SB 77 - State use law committee abolished July 1, 2014.

Renaë Jefferies, Assistant Revisor provided an explanation of the bill (Attachment 1).

Matt Fletcher, InterHab & State Use Committee spoke in support of **SB 77** (Attachment 2). He spoke of the progress that has been achieved by the State Use Committee to resolve conflicts and improve the program. The Committee is in the process of developing a “pricing matrix” to ensure that prices are in a range of competitiveness. They have come up with a process of three waiver choices for school districts to apply for waivers.

Representative Bethell asked if there was a reason for having a sunset on the law. Matt said that the Committee was formed in 2005 and was a compromise between the vendors and customers at that time. Matt felt that the Committee needed five more years to solve all of the problems. Representative Bethell thought it might be good to just eliminate the sunset on the State Use Law.

Ron Passmore, Executive Director of KETCH testified as a proponent of **SB 77** (Attachment 3). KETCH provides vocational training, employment and residential services for adult children with mental retardation. They make binders and filters for sale through the State Use Law. Their purpose is to provide a quality product at a fair market price. This allows them to provide training and employment for their clients.

Representative Quigley asked if they had always made filters and binders. Ron said that he had been with the company for 20 years and they have always made them during that time.

Representative Bethell said that he was interested in the training facility for individuals that are disabled. He further asked how many over a year’s time would leave your facility and go into work in the public sector. Ron said that about 20% would leave. They are working with about 80 people and they help them find work in the public sector.

Natalie Bright, Coalition for Opportunity testified as a proponent of **SB 77** (Attachment 4). She said that the State Use Law employed over 400 blind and disabled Kansans who were afforded their first opportunity to earn a competitive wage. A State Use website has been created with an electric catalog where purchasers may locate and purchase products. The website can be accessed at www.ksstateuse.org and a streaming video has been added to help in the marketing of the products.

The Chairman asked who was on the State Use Committee. Natalie said that Matt Fletcher was the advocate

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the House Commerce And Labor Committee at 9:00 a.m. on March 3, 2009, in Room 784 of the Docking State Office Building.

for the blind and disabled community, there are two legislators, Representative Jo Ann Pottorff and Senator Oletha Faust-Goudeau. In addition they have representatives from a large and a small school district.

The Chairman closed the hearing on **SB 77** and asked the Committee if they should waive the 24 hour wait before working the bill and work it now. The Committee consensus was to work it now.

Representative Ruiz made a motion to move the bill out favorably and send it to the consent calendar. Representative Grange seconded the motion.

Representative Schwab made a substitute motion to strike the word "Register" and replace with the words "Statute". Representative Prescott seconded the motion. The motion failed.

The Chairman called for a voice vote on the original motion. The motion carried.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 4, 2009.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.