

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ELECTIONS AND GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mike Burgess at 3:30 P.M. on February 4, 2008 in Room 784 of the DSOB.

All members were present except

Representative Peterson- Excused
Representative Menghini- Excused
Representative Brunk- Excused
Representative Metsker- Excused
Representative Pottorff- Excused

Committee staff present:

Martha Dorsey, Legislative Research Department
Cindy Lash, Legislative Research Department
Dianne Rosell, Assistant Revisor of Statutes
Mike Heim, Revisor of Statutes Office
Piper Cameron, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Representative Mike O'Neal
Don Moler, Executive Director; Kansas League of Municipalities

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairman Burgess called for any bill introductions:

Kansas Hospital Association requests bill on county hospitals, and administration contracts

League of Kansas Municipalities requests bill on credit cards, and their inner-office interest rate for usage of the cards.

HB 2648 Cities, appointments of mayor; governing body approval require unless unfit.

Martha Dorsey briefed the Committee on **HB 2648**. Martha handed out a paper, that broke the bill down into sections. Each section had a detailed explanation of the bill.

Representative Mike O'Neal appeared in support of **HB 2648**. Rep. O'Neal states that, certain appointments that a mayor makes, can be refused, or supported by the Commission. The absence of a procedure to address the statement, thwarts the legislative intent behind mayoral appointments and provides councils with, essentially, the power of a "pocket veto;" the effect in which is to create a "holdover" appointee, situation on a void with respect to a vacant position. Mayoral appointments are subject to approval. **(See Attachment 1)**

Don Moler testified opposing **HB 2648**. If such a vacancy problem arises, it is a matter which should be settled at a local level. Specifically, no one is going to make a specific finding by the passage of a resolution that the person is "not fit," to hold office or position. When an occasional dispute arises over this process, we would suggest that the appropriate forum for its discussion, be debated and resolved, would be at the local level. **(See Attachment 2)**

Being no other conferees, Chairman Burgess closed the public hearing on **HB 2648**. The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m. the next meeting is scheduled for February 4, 2008

The meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting is scheduled for