

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Melvin Neufeld at 9:00 A.M. on January 31, 2006 in Room 514-S of the Capitol.

All members were present:

Committee staff present:

Alan Conroy, Legislative Research Department
J. G. Scott, Legislative Research Department
Becky Krahl, Legislative Research Department
Matt Spurgin, Legislative Research Department
Julian Efird, Legislative Research Department
Debra Hollon, Legislative Research Department
Jim Wilson, Revisor of Statutes
Mike Corrigan, Revisor of Statutes
Nikki Feuerborn, Administrative Assistant
Shirley Jepson, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Others attending:

See attached list.

Representative Powell moved to introduce legislation concerning the animal pet act and reclassification of hunting dogs. The motion was seconded by Representative McLeland. Motion carried.

Representative Powell moved to introduce legislation concerning the release of water from Cedar Bluff Reservoir. The motion was seconded by Representative McLeland. Motion carried.

Representative Powell moved to introduce legislation concerning release of information for the Department of Wildlife and Parks. The motion was seconded by Representative Hutchins. Motion carried.

Representative Pottorff moved to introduce legislation to repeal certain sections in the Kansas Use Law. The motion was seconded by Representative Feuerborn. Motion carried.

Representative Bethell moved to introduce legislation to increase bed capacity of Homes-Plus. The motion was seconded by Representative Henry. Motion carried.

Representative Bethell moved to introduce legislation concerning the Kansas Association of Medically Underserved for a capital loan guarantee program. The motion was seconded by Representative Henry. Motion carried.

Representative Bethell moved to introduce legislation regarding instruction for State Fire Marshal personnel who are involved in regulation of residences or businesses and enforcement of regulations. The motion was seconded by Representative Powell. Motion carried.

Representative Bethell moved to introduce legislation regarding informal dispute process for the State Fire Marshal. The motion was seconded by Representative Powell. Motion carried.

Representative Bethell moved to introduce legislation requiring the State Fire Marshal to produce, for public use, interpretive guidelines on regulations enforced by the office to promote uniform enforcement. The motion was seconded by Representative Powell. Motion carried.

Representative Bethell moved to introduce legislation requiring the State Fire Marshal to provide joint educational opportunities for field personnel and providers of health care. The motion was seconded by Representative Powell. Motion carried.

Representative Bethell moved to introduce legislation to create a state-wide registry of vendors

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supplying fire safety services and products throughout the State. The motion was seconded by Representative Feuerborn. Motion carried.

Representative Hutchins moved to introduce a resolution directing colleges and universities to adopt an academic bill of rights. The motion was seconded by Representative Huy. Motion carried.

Representative Yoder, member of the General Government and Commerce Budget Committee, presented the Budget Committee report and recommendation on **HB 2196** and moved for the adoption of the Budget Committee report (Attachment 1). The motion was seconded by Representative Lane.

Representative Yoder explained that **HB 2196** was requested by the Silver Haired Legislature and introduced during the 2005 Session. The bill would direct the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman to find funding for eleven regional long-term care ombudsman positions, an increase from eight to eleven ombudsman. The Budget Committee Report did not include funding for the three additional positions. The Committee noted six positions were requested during the 2005 Session; however, only three positions were approved. It was noted that there are eleven service area regions and it is proposed to have one ombudsman in each region to train volunteers, who provide assistance to senior citizens. The Committee stated that this program has been beneficial in resolving family conflicts, assist care givers and provide assistance to maintain high standards for senior citizen care.

Representative Pottorff made a substitute motion to re-refer **HB 2196** to the Social Services Budget Committee for further discussion and a possible source of funding. The motion was seconded by Representative Bethell. Motion carried.

Representative Pottorff, Chairperson of the General Government and Commerce Budget Committee, presented the Budget Committee report and recommendation on **HB 2394** and moved for the adoption of the Budget Committee report (Attachment 1). The motion was seconded by Representative Lane. Motion carried.

HB 2394 would establish the Kansas Alternative Project Delivery Construction Procurement Act that would provide a second method for procuring design and construction services for state public improvement contracts. Amendments recommended by the Budget Committee would clarify that various types of state highway construction projects are excluded and would add several definitions. The Budget Committee stated that there are still some unanswered questions to be resolved and hopefully will be resolved before the bill. It was noted that no one opposed the concept but felt there needs to be some clarification of the effect on highway contracts. A copy of the balloon on **HB 2394** was distributed to the Committee (Attachment.2).

Representative Pottorff moved to recommend **HB 2394** favorable for passage as amended. The motion was seconded by Representative Lane. Motion carried.

Representative Hutchins, Chairperson of the Education Budget Committee, presented the Budget Committee report and recommendation on **HB 2574** and moved for the adoption of the Budget Committee report (Attachment 2). The motion was seconded by Representative McLeland. Motion carried.

HB 2574 would allow the Board of Regents and the state universities to dispose of property bequeathed to them without having to seek authorizing legislation or legislative approval. Deb Hollon, Legislative Research Department, noted that the bill is only directed at legislative approval.

Representative Hutchins moved to recommend **HB 2574** favorable for passage as amended. The motion was seconded by Representative Feuerborn. Motion carried.

Alan Conroy, Legislative Research Department, provided an update on state receipts stating that, as of the 31st of January, general fund tax receipts are \$44 million over the estimate made by the Consensus Revenue Estimating Group of which over \$34 million is from individual income taxes.

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The Committee requested tracking of the performance of the voluntary streamlined tax collections.

HB 2583, HB 2584, HB 2620 and HB 2623 were referred to the Retirement Sub Committee. **HB 2714 and HB 2730** were referred to the Social Services Budget Committee.

Chairman Neufeld appointed the following to the Retirement Sub Committee: Representative Neufeld, Representative McCreary, Representative Landwehr, Representative Weber, Representative Schwartz, Representative Gatewood and Representative Feuerborn.

Representative Gatewood moved to approve the minutes as written of January 9, January 11, January 12 and January 19. The motion was seconded by Representative McCreary. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m. The next meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m. on February 1, 2006.

Melvin Neufeld, Chairman