

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mike O'Neal at 3:30 P.M. on March 2, 2006 in Room 313-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:  
Michael Peterson- excused

Committee staff present:  
Jerry Ann Donaldson, Kansas Legislative Research  
Jill Wolters, Office of Revisor of Statutes  
Cindy O'Neal, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:  
Senator Terry Bruce  
Dr. Lorne Phillips, Department of Health & Environment  
Philip Bradley, Kansas Licensed Beverage Association  
Tuck Duncan, Kansas Wine & Sprits Wholesalers

Chairman O'Neal opened the hearing on **SB 397 - adoption of a child born in a foreign country; evidence of US Citizenship.**

Senator Terry Bruce appeared as the sponsor of the bill. He explained that if a couple adopts a child from another country, that child's birth certificate would state that "This is not evidence of US citizenship". However, the US Department of Justice does issue to those who are foreign adopted a Certificate of Citizenship, but it can not be taken to the Kansas Department of Health & Environment to get a birth certificate without the above statement. Kansas had 1,356 foreign adoptions in 2000, with a little less than 200 receiving birth certificates from Kansas. (Attachment 1)

Dr. Lorne Phillips, Department of Health & Environment, appeared in opposition to the bill. Most all states use the same statement on their birth certificates. By removing it Kansas would be determining who is a US citizen and only the Department of Justice can do that. (Attachment 2)

Committee discussion centered on the fact that if the Department of Justice has issued a Certificate of Citizenship, why would a foreign adopted child not be able to receive a Kansas birth certificate without that statement, since the Department of Justice has certified they are a citizen.

The hearing on **SB 397** was closed.

The hearing on **SB 297 - sale of beer & wine by the drink on the state fairgrounds during the Kansas State Fair**, was opened.

Philip Bradley, Kansas Licensed Beverage Association, explained that the bill would simply allow the Kansas State Fair to enter into a contract with individuals to sell wine and alcoholic products during the Fair. The Fair promotes Kansas products and Kansas now has a large selection of wineries whom could possibly benefit from the enactment of such a bill. (Attachment 3)

Tuck Duncan, Kansas Wine & Sprits Wholesalers, was also in support of the proposed bill because it would add a venue for those who do not drink beer but would like to drink wine at the fair. (Attachment 4)

Written testimony in support of the bill was provided by Kansas Department of Commerce, Agriculture marketing Division. (Attachment 5)

The hearing on **SB 297** was closed.

The committee meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m. The next meeting was scheduled for 3:30 p.m. on March 6, 2006 in room 313-S.