

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS.

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Melvin Neufeld at 12:30 p.m. on April 5, 2001, in Room 514-S of the Capitol. Chairman Wilk appeared later to conduct the meeting.

All members were present except: Representative Phil Kline

Committee staff present: Alan Conroy, Legislative Research
Rae Anne Davis, Legislative Research
Amy Kramer, Legislative Research
Audrey Nogle, Legislative Research
Jim Wilson, Revisor of Statutes
Mike Corrigan, Revisor of Statutes
Nikki Feuerborn, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Dr. Ramon Powers, Kansas Historical Society
Marion Cott, Kansas Humanities Council
Dr. Lorne Phillips, Center of Health & Environment
Statistics
Jack Brier, KDHA
Representative Jim Garner
Brandon Naylor, Topeka High
Geoff Tolbert, Topeka High
Jason Stafford, Topeka West
David Harbert, Topeka West

Others attending: See attached

Representative Minor moved for the adoption of the minutes of March 15, 16, and 20 as presented. Motion was seconded by Representative Hermes. Motion carried.

Hearing, discussion, and action on HB 2583—Kansas territorial sesquicentennial commemoration

Audrey Nogle, Legislative Research Department, explained the bill which would create a commission to plan the recognition of Kansas becoming a territory 150 years ago. Funding would be through donations.

Dr. Ramon Powers, State Historical Society, appeared before the Committee in support of the establishment of the Commission which would recognize the importance the Kansas Territory had in relationship to the Civil War and the settlement of the western United States. He urged the Committee to authorize the Commission this year.

Marion Cott, Kansas Humanities Council, spoke in support of the Sesquicentennial Commission which will plan and support such events as the Kansas Chatauqua in 2004.

There were no opponents and Vice-Chairman Neufeld declared the hearing on **HB 2583** closed.

Representative Pottorff moved that the language requiring members appointed by the House and Senate leadership to be from the public be deleted which would allow the appointment of legislators to serve on the advisory committee to the Commission. Motion was seconded by the Representative Stone. Motion carried.

Representative Spangler moved that **HB 2583** as amended be reported favorably. Motion was seconded by Representative Hermes. Motion carried.

Hearing, discussion, and action on SB 343—Vital statistics maintenance fee fund

Rae Anne Davis, Legislative Research Department, explained the bill which would create a fund by increasing the cost of copies of vital statistics information to upgrade data processing equipment and software.

Dr. Lorne Phillips, State Registrar and Director of the Center for Health and Environmental Statistics,

presented testimony in support of the bill ([Attachment 1](#)). Their agency generates income in the amount of \$2.6 million annually with the agency receiving funding in the amount of \$1.3 million. The total cost of the proposed integrated information system would be \$3.6 million with \$200,000 coming from the SGF and the remaining \$3.2 million through bonding if approved by the KDFFA.

Jack Brier, Kansas Development Finance Authority, presented an amendment for the bill authorizing a series of revenue bonds for the purchase of the integrated information system for KDHE ([Attachment 2](#)).

There were no opponents to the bill and Vice-Chairman Neufeld closed the hearing on **SB 343**.

Representative Spangler moved to amend the bill authorizing one or more series of revenue bonds by the Kansas Development Finance authority (see Attachment 2). Motion was seconded by Representative Peterson. Motion carried.

Representative Ballard moved to pass **SB 343** as amended. Motion was seconded by Representative Bethell. Motion carried.

Hearing and Discussion on HB 2401–Kansas commemorative coin design act

Audrey Nogle, Legislative Research Department, explained the bill which would provide a means whereby the state through the cooperation of the Governor, the arts community and high school students selects the design of the quarter that is emblematic of Kansas, its history, geography and heritage for submission to the US Secretary of the Treasury in accordance with the Coin Program Act.

Written testimony was received from Joseph Mark Ross of Manhattan in support of the act ([Attachment 4](#)).

Minority Leader Jim Garner presented testimony in favor of the bill which he indicated was a way to involve youth with government ([Attachment 5](#)).

Brandon Naylor, Topeka High, said he was speaking in favor of the bill because he felt civic virtue and duty should play an important role in every American's life ([Attachment 6](#)).

Geoff Tolbert, Topeka High, explained that he felt the involvement of youth in designing and working on the coin project would encourage civic responsibility which is necessary in democracies ([Attachment 7](#)).

Jason Stafford, Topeka West, said he thought this project would increase interest in politics among those students interested in participating in the program ([Attachment 8](#)).

David Harbert, Topeka West, praised the idea of the state turning what could be a process done by a committee or commission into a statewide education program ([Attachment 9](#)).

There were no opponents to the bill and Vice-Chairman Neufeld declared the hearing on **HB 2401** closed.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.