

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Michael R. O'Neal at 3:30 p.m. on March 11, 2003 in Room 313-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Dean Newton - Excused  
Representative Dale Swenson - Excused  
Representative Dan Williams - Excused

Committee staff present:

Jerry Ann Donaldson, Legislative Research Department  
Jill Wolters, Revisor of Statutes  
Cindy O'Neal, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Randy Hearrell, Kansas Judicial Council  
Justice Ed Larson

The hearing on **SB 37 - receipts from an interest in minerals & other natural resources pursuant to the uniform principal & income act**, was opened.

Justice Ed Larson appeared as a proponent to the bill, and explained that it would make Kansas law consistent with laws in surrounding states with regard to how gross receipts from oil & gas royalties are distributed between principal and income. (Attachment 1)

Hearing on **SB 37** was closed.

The hearing on **SB 36 - membership & duties of the Judicial Council**, was opened.

Randy Hearrell, Kansas Judicial Council, explained that the bill would expand the number of legislative members on the Council from two to four; by including the chairperson of the House Corrections & Juvenile Justice Committee and the ranking minority member of the Senate Judiciary Committee. He commented that the Judicial Council is a non-partisan committee that works on issues that are important to the courts, lawyers and legislators. The bill also would make the Judicial Council an independent agency of the Judicial Branch. (Attachment 2)

Hearing on **SB 36** was closed.

**HB 2418 - delay of phased in increase of court of appeals to 14 judges**

Committee discussion centered on the need of court of appeals judges and questioned the urgency for the bill. The committee showed no interest in working the bill.

**SB 21 - nomination & selection of justices & judges**

Representative Loyd made the motion to report SB 21 favorably for passage. Representative Goering seconded the motion.

Representative Pauls made a substitute motion to reinsert the language on page 11, lines 42 & 43. Representative Owens seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Representative Loyd renewed his motion which was seconded by Representative Goering. The motion to report

CONTINUATION SHEET

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SB 21 favorably, as amended, carried.

**SB 17 - appointment of clerks & non judicial personnel by the chief judge of each district**

Representative Goering made the motion to report SB 17 favorably for passage. Representative Yoder seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Committee minutes from February 17, 18, 20, 24 & 25 were distributed.