

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Vickrey at 3:30 p.m. on February 20, 2003 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Rep. Toelkes

Committee staff present: Mike Heim, Legislative Research Department
Kathie Sparks, Legislative Research Department
Theresa Kiernan, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Maureen Stinson, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Rep. Minor	Kansas House of Representatives
Rep. Rehorn	Kansas House of Representatives
Wendy Wilson	Rosedale Development Association
Michael Snodgrass	CHWC, Inc.
Sen. Haley	Kansas Senate
* Mary Jane Johnson	Liveable Neighborhoods, Inc.
* written testimony only	

Others attending: See attached list

Chairman Vickrey opened the hearing on:

HB 2204 Planning and zoning; planning commission; residency requirements

Rep. Minor testified as a proponent of the bill (Attachment 1). He stated that the bill amends the city and county planning and zoning law dealing with the membership of the city planning commission when the city decides to plan, zone, or administer subdivision regulations outside the city limits. He explained that the bill adds to the current provision that requires at least two members of the planning commission reside outside of but within three miles of the city to allow these persons who own property within the three-mile area and who reside within the unincorporated area to serve on the city planning commission.

There were no opponents to the bill.

The Chairman closed the hearing on **HB 2204**.

HB 2202 Land to be incorporated as, or added to cities

Rep. Kassebaum made a motion for favorable passage of **HB 2202**. Rep. Thull seconded the motion. The motion carried.

HB 2212 Cities; relating to annexation; time of publication before election

Rep. Storm made a motion for favorable passage of **HB 2212** and asked that it be placed on the Consent Calendar. Rep. Reitz seconded the motion. The motion carried.

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Chairman Vickrey opened the hearing on:

HB 2122 Abandoned property; rehabilitation thereof

Rep. Rehorn testified as a proponent of the bill. He provided no written testimony. He stated that the bill amends the Kansas Abandoned Housing Act. He said the current law needed amendments to make it a workable tool to rehabilitate abandoned property. He distributed a copy of a balloon amendment (Attachment 6) and stated it is a compromise between the non-profit and landlord organizations.

Wendy Wilson, Executive Director, Rosedale Development Association, Inc. appeared as a proponent of the bill (Attachment 2). She explained that the bill will help to address those few very difficult properties that blight the surrounding neighborhoods. She testified that the removal of the low or moderate income housing references is to promote a mixed income approach to community development and to encourage the highest quality of rehabilitation to the property.

Michael Snodgrass, representing CHWC, Inc., a not-for-profit community development corporation serving neighborhoods in the urban core of Kansas City, Kansas appeared as a proponent of the bill (Attachment 3). He said the proposed changes to the current statute are vital to making the statute a functional tool in the fight against blight and decay. He explained that the current statute requires the property to be vacant for a period of one year, while the proposed bill contains a much shorter period.

Written testimony in support of the bill was received from:

- Mary Jane Johnson, Liveable Neighborhoods, Inc. (Attachment 4)

There were no opponents appearing before the committee.

Sen. Haley provided neutral testimony on the bill (Attachment 5). He requested that the Committee expand the proposed rehabilitating party not only to “nonprofit organizations” but to any individual, meeting first time homeowner guidelines as established by income requirements prescribed by the department of housing and urban development who can produce evidence of capacity and resources necessary to complete rehabilitation of the property; upon a finding that neither said individual or any entity within the nonprofit organization holds or has held or can be shown to be affiliated with the delinquent owner of the property.

The Chairman closed the hearing on **HB 2122**.

HB 2043 Annexation; powers and duties of cities and counties

Copies of a balloon amendment (Attachment 7) were distributed to members of the committee. There was discussion concerning proposed changes to **HB 2043** but no action was taken.

The meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting is scheduled for February 25, 2003.

CONTINUATION SHEET

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