

MINUTES OF THE ETHICS AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Terrie Huntington at 9:32 a.m. on February 16, 2011, in Room 159-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Mike Heim, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
Jill Shelley, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Ellen Martinez, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Sherri Riebel, Allen County Clerk  
Don Pyle, Crawford County Clerk  
Bruce Newby, Wyandotte County Election Commissioner  
Janet Rumpel, Sherman County Election Officer  
Karen D. Delfore, Cowley County Clerk/Election Officer  
Bryan Caskey, Assistant State Election Director, Elections and Legislative Matters

Others attending:

See attached list.

The Chairman called the meeting to order and opened the hearing on **SB 125 - Elections; candidate filing deadline change**. Staff explained the bill would change the filing deadline from June 10 to June 1 for candidates for national, state (including governor and lieutenant governor), county, and township offices. The bill also would remove language regarding certain 1998 elections.

Sherri Riebel, Allen County Clerk, testified in favor of the bill. **SB 125** would alleviate the need to create makeshift ballots to mail to overseas voters and ensure the ballots are error free. (Attachment 1)

Don Pyle, Crawford County Clerk, testified in support of the bill. He stated that passage of **SB 125** would help make the ballot preparation process more manageable for Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act ballots. (Attachment 2)

Bryan Caskey informed the Committee that the Secretary of State had no position officially on **SB 125**.

There being no further testimony, the hearing on **SB 125** was closed.

The Chairman opened the hearing on **SB 127 - Elections; certain local units of governments; primaries**. Staff explained that **SB 127** would resolve contradictory language in the 2008 law, but maintain the intent of the 2008 law by reducing the number of spring primaries.

Sherri Riebel, Allen County Clerk, testified in support of **SB 127**. The bill would clean up language in the current bill. (Attachment 3)

Don Pyle, Crawford County Clerk, testified in support of **SB 127**. (Attachment 4)

Bryan Caskey, Assistant State Election Director, Elections and Legislative Matters, testified in support of **SB 127**. The Secretary of State supports this bill. He requested two amendments to clarify language. (Attachment 5)

Kim Winn, League of Kansas Municipalities, provided written testimony only in support of **SB 127**. (Attachment 6)

There being no further testimony, the hearing on **SB 127** was closed.

The Chairman opened the hearing on **SB 130 - Elections; candidate filing deadlines; other**. Staff explained that **SB 130** would change candidate filing deadlines in years in which districts are reapportioned.

CONTINUATION SHEET

The minutes of the Ethics and Elections Committee at 9:32 a.m. on February 16, 2011, in Room 159-S of the Capitol.

Bryan Caskey, Assistant State Election Director, Elections and Legislative Matters, testified in support of **SB 130**. This bill would alter the special candidate filing deadlines in years in which the Legislature draws new district lines. (Attachment 7)

There being no further testimony, the hearing was closed.

The Chairman opened the floor for final action on **SB 43 - Campaign finance; transfer of campaign money to another candidacy**. Senator Schmidt asked that **SB 43** be amended to require the reporting of the date of certain lobbyist expenditures.

Senator Schmidt moved, seconded by Senator Kelsey, the bill be amended as previously stated. Motion carried.

Senator Schmidt moved, seconded by Senator Brungardt, the bill be passed favorably as amended. Motion carried.

The Chairman opened the floor for final action on **SB 67 - Gubernatorial inauguration donations; disposition of residual monies**. Senator Schmidt asked that **SB 67** be amended to change the bill's effective date.

Senator Schmidt moved, seconded by Senator Peterson, the bill be amended as previously stated. Motion carried.

Senator Peterson moved, seconded by Senator Reitz, the bill be passed favorably as amended. Motion carried.

The Chairman opened the floor for final action on **SB 127 - Elections; certain local units of governments; primaries**. Senator Schmidt asked that **SB 127** be amended with technical corrections.

Senator Schmidt moved, seconded by Senator Kelsey, the bill be amended as previously stated. Motion carried.

Senator Kelsey moved, seconded by Senator Reitz, the bill be passed favorably. Senator Peterson asked for a substitute bill that incorporated extensive technical changes to the original bill but did not change its intent.

Senator Peterson moved, seconded by Senator Brungardt to recommend SB 67 as amended by a substitute bill be passed favorably. Motion carried.

The Chairman thanked everyone for appearing before the Committee.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 17, 2011

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.