

MINUTES OF THE ETHICS AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Terrie Huntington at 9:36 a.m. on March 3, 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, Principal Analyst, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Martha Dorsey, Principal Analyst, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Ellen Martinez, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Others attending:

See attached list.

The Chairman called the meeting to order and introduced her intern, Jenna Olitsky, a sophomore at the University of Kansas.

Martha Dorsey, Kansas Legislative Research Department, gave a presentation the background and current laws in the United States for voter identification and registration requirements. The Federal Help American Vote Act (HAVA) has certain requirements regarding voter identification. In Kansas, current law requires persons voting for the first time to provide identification unless they have done so when they registered to vote. Twenty seven states have enacted broader voter ID requirements than those required by HAVA. Comparisons were made to laws enacted in Indiana and Georgia to the proposed Kansas law. (Attachment 1)

Senator Apple requested that staff provide a side by side comparison of the proposed Kansas legislation to the Indiana law. Senator Reitz requested evidence of voter fraud in Kansas.

Jill Shelley, Principal Analyst, Kansas Legislative Research Department, provided written testimony. (Attachment 2)

The Chairman asked if Carmen Alldritt, Director, Division of Motor Vehicles, would testify at the committee's next meeting to discuss the impact that the Voter Identification Law would have on the Kansas Department of Motor Vehicles.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 9, 2011.

The Chairman thanked the staff for appearing before the Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.