

Approved: 2/06/12
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steven R. Brunk at 1:30 p.m. on January 25, 2012, in Room 346-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:
Representative Peterson-Excused

Committee staff present:
Mike Heim, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Julian Efird, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Dennis Hodgins, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Stephen Bainum, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:
Representative Forrest J. Knox
James R. Floyd, Self
Brenda Granger, Self
David Wallis, Self
Sidna Small, Self
Greg Bacon, Professor, Pratt Community College
Richard Ranzau, Sedgwick County Commissioner
Sandy Jacquot, General Counsel, League of Kansas Municipalities

Others attending: See attached

Chairman Brunk called for bill introductions.
Representative Bethel introduced a bill concerning farm wineries.
Representative Brunk introduced four bills. One was regarding the Immigration Accountability Act, simple E-verify. The second was regarding Immigration and Law Enforcement. The third was about Immigration, Illegal to Harbor. The fourth was regarding Life Begins at Conception. They were all received without exception.

Chairman Brunk opened the hearing on **HB 2353–Personal and family protection act; amendments**. Mike Heim explained the changes in **HB 2353**. He said that Section 1,a stated the police and the balance was definition.
Representative Wolfe-Moore asked if this bill applied to college campuses and included dorms, sororities, fraternities, football or basketball stadiums and the like. Mike said that although there was some confusion about those venues, it probably would apply to them.

Representative Forrest Knox presented testimony as a proponent of **HB 2353** ([Attachment 1](#)). He asked the question, Is the general public more secure or less secure when an unsecured building is posted prohibiting the carry of a concealed weapon by licensed individuals?
Representative Brunk asked for a definition of adequate security. Representative Knox said it entails

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The minutes of the House Federal and State Affairs Committee at 1:30 p.m. on January 25, 2012, in Room 346-S of the Capitol.

persons and equipment at any public entrance that would ensure that no guns entered the building. Representative Rubin said the terms facilities and premises are not defined. Representative Knox said that only buildings can be posted. Parking lots may not be posted. Representative Carlson asked if it was not a fundamental role of government to protect our Bill of Rights whether it be the First or Second Amendment?

James R. Floyd presented testimony as a proponent of **HB 2353** ([Attachment 2](#)). He said that posting signs against concealed carry creates a make-believe-gun-free zone. Such a sign is not respected by criminals.

Brenda Granger presented testimony as a proponent of **HB 2353** ([Attachment 3](#)). She said that people who have gone to the effort and expense to get a concealed carry license, should not have to lock up their guns when they enter a government building. Representative Seiwert asked if she felt comfortable walking around in the evening because she had some security with her. Brenda said yes. If you don't have it you feel a little nervous. Brenda said yes.

David Wallis presented testimony as a proponent of **HB 2353** ([Attachment 4](#)). Representative Seiwert asked if he had ever had to use his weapon when he was in the Marines. He said no. It is a very serious thing to pull your concealed carry weapon.

Sidna Small testified as a proponent of **HB 2353** ([Attachment 5](#)). She obtained her concealed carry permit because of teaching evening classes at Independence Community College where she did not feel safe leaving the class and going to her car.

Greg Bacon presented testimony as a proponent of **HB 2353** ([Attachment 6](#)). Representative Knox asked if anything besides the buildings were posted on the campus. Greg said that there was a posting on the parking lot. Do you think that the other teachers and students feel safer because of the signs being posted? Greg compared it to camping in bear country. Representative Boman asked if it would be better for the professors to carry guns. Representative Howell asked what precautions were taken to protect the students. Greg answered that the teachers had cell phones.

Richard Ranzau testified as a proponent of **HB 2353** ([Attachment 7](#)). Representative Seiwert asked if any concealed carry license holders had been arrested for a crime. Richard said that there had been 159 licenses revoked excluding those who moved out of state out of 37 thousand which is .004 percent. Richard did not know if any had been convicted of a crime. Representative Howell mentioned that he had 3 school age children and asked if he would be concerned about adults carrying in the school. Richard said that he would welcome it, he would have no concerns.

Sandy Jacquot appeared to testify as an opponent of **HB 2353** ([Attachment 8](#)). The gist of her testimony was in support of local control.

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Representative Knox asked if there were higher liberties guaranteed in constitutions that should be dictated by the government or the state. Sandy said that they do limit liberties in many different ways but it is hard to define. Representative Knox asked if the League opposed concealed carry preempting local control. Sandy said yes. Are there not many laws on the books that apply across the State. Sandy agreed that there were but that they often opposed them.

Representative Seiwert asked if posting the sign made the buildings safer. Sandy said that cities should be able to make these decisions without the state telling them what to do.

Representative Rubin asked if she was aware of any municipality that had decided to install security measures like metal detectors and wands. Are you aware of any municipality that has taken any security measures to protect the public other than the posting of the sign? Sandy said that she was not aware of any additional security measures but there might be some that she is not aware of.

The Chairman closed the hearing on **HB 2353**.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 26, 2012.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.