

Approved: March 21, 2012
(Date)

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE TAXATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Richard Carlson at 3:41 pm on Wednesday, February 29, 2012, in Room 783 of the Docking State Office Building.

Members excused were:

Representative Frownfelter
Representative Schwartz

Committee staff present:

Gordon Self, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Scott Wells, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Chuck Reimer, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Chris Courtwright, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Chris Sevedge, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Allen Jeffus, Office Assistant
Phyllis Fast, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Representative Arlen Siegfried, Kansas House Majority Leader
Beverly Gossage, HSA Benefits Consulting
Eric Stafford, Kansas Chamber of Commerce
Dan Murray, National Federation of Independent Business

Others attending: See attached list.

Introduction of Bills:

Doug Mays requested a bill concerning a property tax exemption for on-base military housing at three military bases in Kansas. Chairman Carlson made a motion to exempt property tax for on-base military housing at three military bases in Kansas. Representative Goico seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Chairman Carlson recognized Representative Hedke who introduced two pages from the Wichita area. The Committee welcomed both pages.

Chairman Carlson opened a hearing on:

Unless specifically noted, the individual remarks recorded herein have not been transcribed verbatim. Individual remarks as reported herein have not been submitted to the individuals appearing before the committee for editing or corrections.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the HOUSE TAXATION Committee at 3:41 PM on Wednesday, February 29, 2012 in 783-DSOB.

HB 2717 - Allowing employees to retain and receive contributions from employers on individual policies and providing an income tax deduction for premiums paid on individually underwritten privately purchased health insurance policies.

Scott Wells briefed the Committee on **HB 2717** which allows small business employers Kansas tax exemptions on group health insurance plans for their employees. He stood for questions.

Representative Arlen Siegfried testified in support of **HB 2717** emphasizing the positive impact of tax exemptions for both small business owners' and their employees when providing group health insurance policies to individual employees. (Attachment 1) He stood for questions.

Beverly Gossage testified in support of **HB 2717** by addressing three problems: uninsured Kansans, skyrocketing small group insurance premiums, and discrimination regarding health insurance premium tax law. She also proposed solutions for each problem. (Attachment 2) She stood for questions.

Eric Stafford testified in support of **HB 2717**, by promoting tax exemptions for small business owners who want to continue offering their employees group health policies, and to help offset the increasing cost of health insurance affected by rising health care costs. (Attachment 3) He stood for questions.

Dan Murray testified in support of **HB 2717**, by emphasizing the flexibility and portability of the bill for all employees, including those who are required to change employers on a frequent basis. (Attachment 4) He stood for questions.

Written only testimony in support of **HB 2717** was presented by Kerri Spielman, Kansas Association of Insurance Agents (Attachment 5).

Written only neutral testimony for **HB 2717** was presented by Linda Sheppard, Kansas Insurance Department (Attachment 6).

After all questions were answered, Chairman Carlson closed the hearing on **HB 2717**.

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for 3:30 pm, Thursday, March 1, 2012 in 783-DSOB.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:56 pm.

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