

Approved: 03-30-2012

(Date)

MINUTES OF THE SENATE FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND INSURANCE COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Ruth Teichman at 9:30 AM on Thursday, March 1, 2012 in 152-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Melissa Calderwood, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Heather O'Hara, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Ken Wilke, Revisor of Statutes Office
Marilyn Arnone, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

None

Others in attendance:

See attached list.

Chair Teichman opened the meeting and remarked to the Committee that there was only two weeks left to work bills and the Committee has a number of bills remaining. She has begun to schedule the bills and it will be a busy two weeks.

The Chair asked for final action on **SB 250–Firefighters health insurance.** This bill covers insurance to be paid for the families of firefighters who have lost their life in the line of duty and have had insurance coverage by their municipality.

The Chair said there had been an informal, open meeting to discuss this bill. As a result, the bill has been amended to pay premiums for the continuation of coverage under COBRA for 18 months. **SB 250** will address firefighters only. (Attachment 1)

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 SENATE FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND INSURANCE Committee at 9:30 AM on Thursday, March 1, in 152-S of the Capitol.

The municipality would pay for 18 months of COBRA coverage unless the surviving spouse remarried or reached the age of 65 within the 18 months, or if the surviving spouse has coverage under another policy at their workplace. Only 4 firefighters have died in the line of duty in recent years, so paying the premiums does not seem to be a burden on the municipality.

Senator Steineger moved to accept the balloon and amend the bill. Senator Schmidt seconded and the motion carried.

Senator Steineger moved to pass the bill as amended favorably out of Committee. Senator Olson seconded and the motion carried.

The Chair asked Senator Schmidt to carry the bill on the floor.

The Chair invited Senator Longbine to introduce his pages who were in attendance. They were Gabe Dorsey, Ryan Cahone, Scott Hazelton, and Clayton Schroer all of Chase County High School.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:50 AM. The next meeting will be March 6, 2012

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.