

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Steve Morris at 11:00 a.m. on March 29, 2001 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: All Present

Committee staff present:

Alan Conroy, Chief Fiscal Analyst, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Debra Hollon, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Amory Lovin, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Rae Anne Davis, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Paul West, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Robert Chapman, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Julian Efird, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Michael Corrigan, Assistant Revisor, Revisor of Statutes Office
Julie Weber, Administrative Assistant to the Chairman
Mary Shaw, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Representative Melvin Minor
Brad D. Rayl, Chairman of Master Plan Committee, State Fair Board
Bill Ogg, General Manager, Kansas State Fair
Bob Barker, President, State Fair Board
Elena Nuss for Gale Haag, State Fire Marshal
Jack Brier, Executive Director, Kansas Development Finance Authority
Todd Frazier, Kansas Development Finance Authority
Representative Bob Bethell
John Lehman, Apostolic Christian Home, Sabetha and Board of Adult Care Home Administrators
Kerri Ruhlman, Executive Director, Kansas Adult Care Executives
Lisa Roberts, Director of Health Occupations Credentialing, Kansas Department of Health and Environment
Joyce Barr, Member, Board of Adult Care Home Administrators
Debra Zehr, Vice President, Kansas Association of Homes and Services for the Aging
Senator Anthony Hensley
Beth Mechler, Special Enforcement Officer
Randall Listrom, Topeka Police Officer
Rick Husselman, Supervisor, Southern Parole Region, SEO Unit

Others attending: See attached guest list

Chairman Morris opened the public hearing on:

HB 2283--Attorney for board of adult care home administrators appointed by the attorney general

Staff briefed the committee on the bill.

The following conferees appeared before the Committee:

Representative Bob Bethell spoke in support of **HB 2283** (Attachment 1).

John Lehman, Apostolic Christian Home, Sabetha, and Board of Adult Care Home Administrators, spoke in support of **HB 2283** (Attachment 2).

Kerri Ruhlman, Executive Director, Kansas Adult Care Executives, spoke in support of **HB 2283** (Attachment 3).

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Lisa Roberts, Director, Health Occupations Credentialing, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, spoke in support of **HB 2283** (Attachment 4).

Joyce Barr, Member, Board of Adult Care Home Administrators, spoke in support of **HB 2283** (Attachment 5).

Written testimony in support of **HB 2283** was submitted by Debra Zehr, Vice President, Kansas Association of Homes and Services for the Aging (Attachment 6).

There being no further conferees to come before the Committee, the Chairman closed the public hearing on **HB 2283**.

Chairman Morris opened the public hearing on:

HB 2493--Kansas state fairgrounds repair and reconstruction

Staff briefed the committee on the bill.

Chairman Morris welcomed the following conferees:

Representative Melvin Minor spoke in support of **HB 2493** (No written testimony was provided.). Representative Minor noted that the Fair Board has done an excellent job. He noted that the state needs to take an active role and look at the bill as an economic development opportunity. Chairman Morris mentioned that the Joint Committee on State Building Construction suggested that the Fair Board construct a master plan for state fairgrounds capital improvements.

Copies of the Long-Range Master Plan, Kansas State Fair, Hutchinson, dated September 8, 1999, were distributed (Attachment 7). A time line chart covering Year 1 through Year 6 of the Master Plan for the State Fair was also distributed and is filed with the Kansas Legislative Research Department.

The following three conferees spoke in support of **HB 2493** and briefly addressed portions of the Master Plan for the Kansas State Fair (information is found in Attachment 7):

Brad Rayl, Chairman of the Master Plan Committee and Member of the State Fair Board.

Bill Ogg, General Manager and Secretary of the State Fair Board.

Bob Barker, Member, State Fair Board.

Elena Nuss who spoke in support of **HB 2493** on behalf of State Fire Marshal Gale Haag (Attachment 8).

Jack Brier, President, Kansas Development Finance Authority (KDFa) spoke regarding **HB 2493** (No written testimony was provided). Mr. Brier mentioned that Todd Frazier, Vice President of KDFa, was with him to answer questions. Mr. Brier noted that the legislation was adequate to create the revenue stream that is needed to fund the improvements to the state fairgrounds and they believe the bonds will be very marketable. Mr. Brier mentioned that the capitalizing interest to hold in the future would work, but they want to take some time to evaluate it in terms of the bond issue as it may affect it.

Committee questions and discussion followed.

There being no further conferees to come before the Committee, the Chairman closed the public hearing on **HB 2493**.

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Chairman Morris opened the public hearing on:

SB 351--Special enforcement officers to be eligible for KPF membership

Staff briefed the committee on the bill and distributed copies of information, "Fiscal Year 1999, Kansas Department of Corrections, Special Enforcement Unit Achievements" (Attachment 9).

Chairman Morris welcomed the following conferees:

Senator Anthony Hensley who spoke in support of **SB 351**. Senator Hensley mentioned that this bill applies to fourteen individuals that are currently in the Department of Corrections Parole Services. It is his understanding that their job duties are to serve warrants, arrest parole violators, conduct drug searches and that these individuals come in direct contact with some of the more dangerous felons as often as many law enforcement officers. He feels it is safe to assume that they have some great risk in their job duties on a daily basis. Senator Hensley asks favorable consideration of **SB 351**. He also distributed copies of a letter he received from Michael O. Hall, Chief of Police, City of Pittsburg, Kansas (Attachment 10).

Beth Mechler, Special Enforcement Officer, spoke in support of **SB 351** (Attachment 11).

Randall Listrom, Topeka Police Officer, spoke in support of **SB 351**. Officer Listrom noted that he was not present on behalf of the Topeka Police Department. He noted that he has been with the Topeka Police Department for 24 years. Officer Listrom mentioned that he was present on behalf of his wife, Beth Mechler, and that she and others do the same functions in their positions that a police officer does. (No written testimony was provided.)

Rick Husselman, Supervisor, Southern Parole Region, SEO Unit, spoke in support of **SB 351**. Mr. Husselman noted that he has been involved in police work for twenty years. He noted that he was one of the original seven in the unit in the Department of Corrections in 1993 along with Ms. Mechler. Mr. Husselman noted that their duties involve risk and other factors that are the same as the Sheriff and Police Department. (No written testimony was provided.)

Committee questions and discussion followed.

There being no further conferees to come before the Committee, the Chairman closed the public hearing on **SB 351**.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for March 30, 2001.