

MINUTES OF THE JOINT HOUSE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM/SENATE  
COMMERCE COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lana Gordon at 8:30 A.M. on March 7, 2008 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Valdenia Winn- excused  
Barbara Craft- excused  
Owen Donohoe- excused  
Geraldine Flaharty- excused  
Gary Hayzlett- excused  
Broderick Henderson- excused  
Don Hill- excused  
Judy Morrison- excused  
Don Myers- excused  
Robert Olson- excused  
Gene Rardin- excused  
Mark Treaster- excused  
Ron Worley- excused

Committee staff present:

Ryan Hoffman, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Matt Todd, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
Ann Deitcher, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Professor John D. Wong, Wichita State University  
Stan Ahlrich, President, Kansas Inc.

Chairperson Karin Brownlee called on Stan Ahlrich who briefly addressed the Committee regarding how competitive Kansas was compared to other states in their economic development.

Mr. Ahlrich introduced Professor Wong who offered a power point presentation on a strategic analysis of economic development expenditures by Kansas State government and five surrounding state governments: FY 1989 - FY 2007. (Attachment 1).

Professor Wong told the Committee that the state's image, both in state and abroad, may be enhanced through trade offices and tourism efforts.

Speaking of the findings of the strategic analysis, he said he felt they showed a significant increase. He stressed the importance of focusing on a strategic plan and staying on it.

Questions and answers followed.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March. 10, 2008.