

Approved: 3/22/07  
Date

## MINUTES OF THE SENATE ELECTIONS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tim Huelskamp at 1:30 P.M. on February 6, 2007 in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members except Senator Wilson were present.

Committee staff present:

Martha Dorsey, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Matt Spurgin, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Ken Wilke, Revisor of Statutes  
Zoie Kern, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Ron Thornbough - Secretary of State

Others attending:

See attached list.

Ron Thornbough began with saying we are only 11 months away from the primary. He stated we don't know what the process will look like, nor the rules, but we are asked to play.

The decision making process for the Presidential Primary will engage Kansas current law - Presidential Preference Primary hosts to be 5 other states holding elections at the same time. We need to consider the elements, where Kansas should go. We cannot be the state that goes first. It is a winnowing process. Waiting for the best placement for Kansas with 5 other states. It has to be the right 5 to give Kansas the advantage.

Authority is given to the Secretary of States office to decide the placement, other states it is the Legislature. He then referred to (Attachment 1) disclosing dates already set by other states. He wants Kansas Regional Primary to be tied in with neighboring states if possible.

Mr. Thornbough stated Kansan's need to be apart of the decision process and is therefore forming a Commission. The Governor will choose one former (who has participated in presidential primaries) and one presently experienced representative. Mr. Thornbough will also appoint two people and he will chair the Commission. The commission will meet in the spring after others have made there announcements. The filing deadline is February 12, 2008.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Zoie C. Kern, Committee Secretary