

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMERCE COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Karin Brownlee at 8:30 a.m. on March 5, 2003 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Senator Kerr, absent

Committee staff present: April Holman, Legislative Research  
Deb Hollon, Legislative Research  
Mitch Rice, Revisor of Statutes  
Jodie Anspaugh, Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Steve Weatherford, Kansas Development Finance Authority

Others attending: See attached list.

Deb Hollon from Legislative Research briefed the committee on Executive Reorganization Order 30. An ERO cannot be amended, but can only be approved or disapproved by the committee. If the committee takes no action on the ERO, it will be considered approved. ERO 30 transfers funding and employees from the Department of Commerce to the Kansas Development Finance Authority to create a division of housing. Questions arose about proper procedure. Senator Brownlee cited a memo from Senate Secretary Pat Saville that indicated an ERO can be amended. (Attachment 1)

Steve Weatherford, President of the Kansas Development Finance Authority, testified in support of ERO 30. (Attachment 2) It is the intent of Governor Sebelius to create a "One Stop Shop for Housing." Locating this within KDFFA allows for a continuum of housing programs from homelessness to home ownership. All federal housing programs currently being administered by the Department of Commerce would be the responsibility of KDFFA. These include emergency shelter grants, housing rehabilitation programs, rental assistance programs, housing tax credit programs, and the federal "Home" program. Mr. Weatherford answered questions about his testimony regarding homelessness, other state housing programs, and housing expertise on the KDFFA board.

Senator Barone moved to approve ERO 30. Senator Brungardt seconded. Several committee members expressed their desire to hear SB 222 before they make a decision on ERO 30. Senator Barone withdrew his motion.

Chairperson Brownlee asked the Revisors and Legislative Researchers to look into the proper procedure for an Executive Reorganization Order.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMERCE COMMITTEE at 8:30 a.m. on March 5, 2003 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 6, 2003 at 8:30 a.m. in Room 123-S.