

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMERCE COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Karin Brownlee at 8:30 a.m. on January 27, 2004 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Kathie Sparks, Legislative Research
Susan Kanarr, Legislative Research
Helen Pedigo, Revisor of Statutes
Nikki Kraus, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Lieutenant Governor/Commerce Secretary John Moore
Steve Kelly, Deputy Secretary, Director of Business Development, Department of Commerce

Others attending:

See Attached List.

Chairperson Brownlee introduced Lt. Governor Moore to the committee. The Lieutenant Governor presented the committee with an overview of the Kansas Department of Commerce. (Attachment 1) The presentation included a mission statement "To empower businesses and communities through bold leadership using strategic resources to realize prosperity in Kansas." It went on to outline the organization of the department and of economic revitalization plans for the state. The committee was also provided with several brochures from the Department of Commerce including *Available Assistance from the Kansas Department of Commerce, Workforce Training, Developing Kansas Winter 2003 Vol. 6 No. 2*, the *Kansas Department of Commerce & Housing: Fiscal Year 2003 Executive Summary*, and *Putting Kansas Values to Work: Resource Directory*.

Mr. Kelly presented testimony to the committee more specifically addressing workforce training and business finance, as well as both business recruitment and retention. (Attachment 2)

Following committee discussion, Chairperson Brownlee adjourned the meeting. The next meeting will be held at 8:30 a.m. on January 28, 2004 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.