

## MINUTES OF THE HOUSE GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jene Vickrey at 3:30 P.M. on January 27 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Barbie Craft- excused  
Representative Melody Miller- excused

Committee staff present:

Maureen Stinson, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Rep. Frank Miller  
Brad Bryant, Office of the Secretary of State  
Brian Newby, Johnson County

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairman Vickrey introduced Rep. Williams to the members of the committee. Rep. Williams will be temporarily serving on the committee until Rep. Miller's return.

### **Bill Introductions**

Chairman Vickrey requested a bill amending city annexation law dealing with unilateral annexation. The proposed legislation would require cities to consider 16 different factors when annexing land unilaterally.

Without objection, the bill will be adopted as a committee bill.

Chairman Vickrey said that Rep. Wilk requested a bill amending a law creating a joint water district involving the City of Lansing and Delaware Township, the Lan-Del Water District in Leavenworth County.

Without objection, the bill will be adopted as a committee bill.

Rep. Kirk requested a bill relating to campaign finance and requiring candidates spending at least \$100.00 on their campaigns to file a campaign finance report. The proposed legislation would add precinct committeemen and committeewomen to the definition of "Local Office."

Without objection, the bill will be adopted as a committee bill.

### **HB 2083      Consolidation of Topeka and Shawnee County**

Rep. Lane made a motion to amend the bill to clarify language and to also include a "severability clause." A balloon amendment was distributed (Attachment 1). Rep. Goico seconded the motion. The motion carried. HB 2083 is amended.

Rep. Lane distributed copies of a document he received from the Greater Topeka Chamber stating their 2005 Legislative Priorities (Attachment 2). He explained that listed as a priority is the recommended passage of legislation to allow the consolidation of Topeka/Shawnee County, should the citizens approve a consolidation plan.

Rep. Lane made a motion for the favorable passage of HB 2083 as amended.

Rep. Goico made a substitute motion to further amend the bill to require two public hearings and two publications. Rep. Lane seconded the motion. Motion carried. HB 2083 is further amended.

Rep. Lane made a motion for the favorable passage of HB 2083 as amended. Rep. Goico seconded the motion. Motion carried. HB 2083 as amended is passed unanimously.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Governmental Organization and Elections Committee at 3:30 P.M. on January 27 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

Chairman Vickrey opened the hearing on:

**HCR 5004**     **Elections; concurrent resolution urging Congress to simplify the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 regarding removal of voters from voter registration lists**

Rep. Frank Miller testified as a proponent of the bill (Attachment 3). He said that the bill urges Congress to change the way a voter's name is removed from the Voter Registration List. He explained that the present system is time consuming, costly, and ineffective.

Brad Bryant, Office of the Secretary of State, testified in support of the bill (Attachment 4). He said the bill's intent is to express to Congress the difficulties experienced by those who administer the National Voter Registration Act's list maintenance provisions and to seek remedy through federal legislation.

Brian Newby, Johnson County Election Office, testified in support of the bill (Attachment 5). He said the resolution eases the administrative burden of managing records from inactive voters. He explained that the resolution supports the benefits of having a voter registration database that accurately reflects, to the best extent possible, current voters in the county.

Chairman Vickrey closed the hearing on **HCR 5004**.

**HCR 5004**     **Elections; concurrent resolution urging Congress to simplify the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 regarding removal of voters from voter registration lists**

Rep. Yonally made a motion for the favorable passage of HCR 5004. Rep. Lane seconded the motion. Motion carried. HCR 5004 is passed out of committee.

Rep. Faust-Goudeau and Rep. Sawyer asked to be recorded as "no" votes.

**HB 2041**     **Campaign finance; use of unexpended campaign funds**

Rep. Yonally made a motion to amend HB 2041 by eliminating the ability to transfer funds prospectively between any two campaigns and to instead, allow the transfer of funds between only certain campaign groupings. Rep. Lane seconded the motion. The motion carried. HB 2041 is amended.

Rep. Holland made a motion for the favorable passage of HB 2041 as amended. Rep. Swenson seconded the motion. The motion carried. HB 2041 as amended is passed out of committee.

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for February 1, 2005.