Approved: January 25, 2010

Date

MINUTES OF THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tim Owens at 9:30 a.m. on January 15, 2010, in Room 548-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Senator Julia Lynn- excused

Committee staff present:

Doug Taylor, Office of the Revisor of Statutes Jason Thompson, Office of the Revisor of Statutes Athena Andaya, Kansas Legislative Research Department Jerry Donaldson, Kansas Legislative Research Department Karen Clowers, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Senator Mary Pilcher-Cook Senator Tim Huelskamp Senator Dick Kelsey Dr. George Watson, President, Association of American Physicians and Surgeons Kris Kolbach, Professor of Constitutional Law, University of Missouri - Kansas City Representative Charles Key, Oklahoma State Legislature Deborah Lucia, Topeka 912 Project Greg Dye Patricia Stoneking, President, Kansas Rifle Association Paul Degener Steve Shute Larry Halloran Greg Ward, Kansas Sovereignty Coalition Tim Stiles David Powell Benny Boman Richard D. Fry Jeff Lewis Rodney Wren

Others attending: See attached list.

The hearing on SCR 1615 - Urging congress and the President to respect the 10th amendment and refrain from passing laws intruding on states' rights.

Chairman Tim Owens reviewed the resolution.

Senator Mary Pilcher-Cook testified as a sponsor of the bill indicating the resolution is sponsored by twentyfour State senators. <u>SCR 1615</u> urges Congress and the President to respect the 10^{th} amendment of the U.S. Constitution regarding deference for state sovereignty, and emphasizes the duty of the federal government to recognize the limited nature of the its own powers. (<u>Attachment 1</u>)

Senator Tim Huelskamp spoke in support, stating this resolution will send a message to Washington that they are not all-powerful. The powers of government are divided between the federal and state governments and it is time for the states to reclaim their constitutional authority to govern themselves. This resolution will help educate the public about the 10th amendment and its proper role in our federalist system. (Attachment 2)

Senator Dick Kelsey appeared as a proponent, stating the national government was designed to be very limited in scope and power. The 10th amendment declares that those powers not specified for the Federal Government are reserved for the states or the people. We have moved away from this principal and it is time to remind our federal leaders of this very important foundation of our government and urged enactment of the resolution. (Attachment 3)

Unless specifically noted, the individual remarks recorded herein have not been transcribed verbatim. Individual remarks as reported herein have not been submitted to the individuals appearing before the committee for editing or corrections. Page 1

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the Senate Judiciary Committee at 9:30 a.m. on January 15, 2010, in Room 548-S of the Capitol.

Dr. George Watson spoke as a proponent, stating his organization strongly supports the sovereignty of all states under the 10^{th} amendment. Dr. Watson indicated the proposed federal health bill has patients afraid of bureaucrats making health decisions for them. He feels the passage of <u>SCR 1615</u> will protect Kansans and allow for the development of a health care reform that will meet the needs of patients. (<u>Attachment 4</u>)

Representative Charles Key of the Oklahoma State Legislature appeared in support. No written testimony was submitted.

Kris Kolbach, spoke in favor stating <u>SCR 1615</u> serves an important purpose by declaring that the boundaries of federal power established by the U.S. Constitution have been breached. It is akin to a notice of a breach of contract, signifying that future actions may be taken by Kansas in light of this breach. Ultimately, this resolution will have to be backed up by future action in the Kansas Legislature. (Attachment 5)

Deborah Lucia appeared in support, stating the constitutional rights of States are disappearing under the weight of laws like the proposed federal health bill. When state's rights are threatened, individual rights are threatened. Strong, local government is the key to preserving our freedom and Kansas needs to behave like a sovereign state. Ms. Lucia urged the enactment of <u>SCR 1615</u>. (Attachment 6)

Greg Dye spoke in support, indicating federal agencies have been ignoring the limits placed on them by the Constitution. These agencies have taken powers that have not been delegated to them and they should be reminded that we supplied these funds and aby state legislative authority the funds can be taken back. Passage of this bill will help put us on the road back to Constitutional government. (<u>Attachment 7</u>)

Patricia Stoneking appeared as a proponent stating our federal government has continually increased suppression of our sovereignty while dramatically increasing in size and influence. They are appropriating power not given to them by the Constitution where all aspects of our lives are being regulated by the federal government in some way. This federal government has become a renegade and every State must stop them. This resolution sends that message. (Attachment 8)

Paul Degener spoke in support stating it has become apparent that the federal government pays no attention to the Constitution. State governments are complicit in this by allowing themselves to be extorted with promises of federal dollars and threats of with-holding those dollars if States do not comply with their demands. It is up to the State legislatures and the citizens to stop this crisis. Passage of this resolution will be a start in the right direction. (Attachment 9)

Steve Shute appeared as a proponent stating for the last century an increasingly tyrannical central government has been encroaching upon the rights of the individual states and the people to determine their own direction in direct violation of the 10th amendment. Through executive fiats, judicial edicts, unfunded federal mandates and other unconstitutional laws of all kinds, more and more power has become concentrated in Washington, D.C. The federal government has become our master, telling the States what to do, and imposing punitive sanctions and penalties on States that dare not comply. The time has come to say "enough" to a federal government that is out of control. (Attachment 10)

Lawrence Halloran appeared in support stating there is a Constitutional crises between the federal government and the people. Administration under both political parties have expanded government and spent us into oblivion. The unchecked expansion of government at every level threatens to make each of us wards of the State. It is time to defend the Constitution and bring our common problems closer to home and to teach personal responsibility. <u>SCR 1615</u> will not solve the problems of our nation, but it is the warning that free men must offer. (Attachment 11)

Greg Ward spoke in favor stating the framers of the Constitution gave us a government that balances power between tyranny and anarchy. We have been complacent in our role of that process and are partly to blame for allowing a federal abuse of power. Mr. Ward requested the Committee send the bill to the full Senate for a vote and support for future legislation that will put the interests of Kansas above Washington politics. (<u>Attachment 12</u>)

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the Senate Judiciary Committee at 9:30 a.m. on January 15, 2010, in Room 548-S of the Capitol.

Tim Stiles testified in support stating the Constitution does not empower the federal government to overrule state laws without restraint. Reinstating the 10^{h} amendment that we are a sovereign state will tell the federal government they can no longer tell us to go in a direction we cannot afford. (Attachment 13)

David Powell appeared in favor stating Kansas needs to tell Congress they are stepping beyond the powers given them by our Constitution. Many bills in Congress will hurt our state and businesses within our state. The actions of the federal government are not within the framework of our Constitution and urged passage of the resolution. (Attachment 14)

Benny Boman spoke in support stating it is reasonable to tell the federal government to get back within the bounds set down by the Constitution. (Attachment 15)

Jeff Lewis spoke in a neutral capacity. No written testimony was submitted.

Rodney Wren appeared in opposition stating concern with the language used in this resolution, the lack on intellectual honesty in regards to this subject, and the ramifications of both. The resolution is simply wrong when it says the 10th amendment defines the scope of federal power. The wording of the 10th amendment is vague and was meant to be. If the founders would have wanted the federal government to have authority over just what was textually outlined in the Constitution, and states have absolute authority over everything else, they would have used the word "explicitly" in the 10th amendment. The language was left vague for a reason. A testament to the long lasting nature of our country is the very debate that is necessitated over not who has power but who should have the power. For this resolution to wrongly purport that each state is sovereign and can trump the federal government is naive at best, dangerous as worst. It is incumbent upon those who craft public policy and seek to influence policy decisions, to have adequate knowledge about an issue. Passage of this resolution will make a symbolic statement but it will not be taken seriously. It will not advance the debate over the proper role of the federal government and the balance of power it shares with states. This resolution will be dismissed and the effort to highlight the necessity for limited federal government will be set back. Debate is the best forum for the people of Kansas to stand up and voice their discontent with what is going to lead to higher taxes, outrageous inflation and interest rate hikes. Mr. Wren indicated any resolution should adequately voice our concerns and be capable of passing academic muster. (Attachment 16)

Written testimony in support of <u>SCR 1615</u> was submitted by: Lauren Kaine (<u>Attachment 17</u>)

There being no further conferees, the hearing on SCR 1615 was closed.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 19, 2010.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:31 a.m.

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

DATE: 1-15-10

NAME	REPRESENTING	
Richard KEYES	My SELF/TOPEKA 912 P	LOJOZ I
Marla Bowers	MySelf / Topeka 9127	roject
Lapry Bowers	MySelf / Topeka 9-12 1	roget
Rine Stinhurd	Mysel Topeka-9012	Project
Dong Slinkard	MyselfTopeka 9-12 Pr	oject
Lauren Kaine	the interests of Kansas / the na	fion
PAUL DEGENER	SELF-TUPEHA 912	
RONALD BRUGH	MYSELF- INTREPENT OF-KAMSIKS/NATI	ion
Steve Shute	scshute e embargmail.com	
DEB LUCIA	MYSELF TOPEKA 912	
Robynn Tolbert	my self / topeka 912	
EarlLong	My Self	
Scott Mobley	Myself	-
MIKE KGZUBEK	SelF	
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Gene CRAMER	SER MARY P. COOK	
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SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

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NAME	REPRESENTING
Shieley Griswold	Sell - Mary A-Cook
Tim Rice	I Gaucus
GARY WARden	I CAUCERS
Bronda Bauser	Resistlet
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Boto Rander	Popuka 9-12
Joya Parde	11 11
John & Mary Davie	Jocumel, Kr
John & Mary Davie DEWA ME BURGESS	MERIDEL, KS
Patricia A. Stonesking	Kansas State Rifle Assn
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Steve fruitz	South Central 912 Project
Bonnie Kmetz	Sobrie TEA Party
Magan Hallocan	Ko 912
Sangallon	-Ko 912
Larun Hallon	KA 912
Rogen Coone	
JACK & LINDA BLOW	KS 912

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SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

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NAME	REPRESENTING	
Jadyn Bowser	Resistnet Salina Tea Party	
Bob Bowser	Resist net Saling Teel Party	
Fred + Janice K. Smith	Resist " " Tea Party	
Frank Jan May	Topeka 9-12	
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Shannon Rogers	Topeka 9.12 Intellectual Revolution Topekans against the Bain	
John Desch	Topeley	
Jan Desch	Topeta	
LIZ ROVSERTS	TOPEICA MAR	
Hann Ame	Jopeka Topeka 9:12	
Marfield	FlintHills Tea Party	
Paul A. Ibbetsin	Conscience of Kansons radio program	
Sylvia Chapman	Topeka 912	
Jeff Edward)	Topeva US Show Your Freede	
DONG WILL	SHOW YOUR FREDOM, INC (PARICO,KS)	
RIUVICK	CITIZENS	
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Duane ~ alberta Coosh	Topeka 9-12	

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

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Benny L. Boman	Citizen
Rick Estrin	Citizens (
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Beth Tindel	
Lynn Fisher	taxpayer
Grances Aummeri	Konsas resulene tappayer
Donne Silver	il , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
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Kay William	DPKS

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

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REPRESENTING NAME stan Inil te Park ion Annold WOODY (LAN SAS Lythe tho) (D1 $\mathcal{O}(\mathcal{O}_{i}) \not \sim$ Merriam, KS Kansas City, KS Higginbotham Salina Ka Benefie Merrian, K3 Bentley KS Girrens haz Bently 15 none Busenite arver (0. CILPY chita ames ail

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SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

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NAME	REPRESENTING
Vic & Sandra Lastman	
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Philip P. SKOW	
Jeffrey W. Norris	
RICHARD L. MILLER	·
VIRGINIA MILLER	
Mart Jan Wiehle	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
John Jayabaka	
Roula M. Parsons	
Delsnah lahg	
Sharon Greene	
Holly Frieson	
Dal & Lortza	
Chirston a. Jaway	
Or George Watson I	
Tom & Scalda Kichob	
Jana Janne	

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

DATE: 1-15-2010

NAME	REPRESENTING
John & CINDY SOSSOMAN	TOPEKA KS
Patrick Kennedy	Topeka KS
Carey Kennedy	Topeka, KS
Though alles	Aluchita Ks.
Resmary Jerry	Wechito Kg
Michael & Widdl	Wichita, Ks
BARRED & SHARDD GRAVES	Rossille, KS
Motor Colote	Querland MCKS
Virian Curtis	Lenera, KI
Don + Marilyn Harles	ness City, Ko.
Diana Kulu	Jereenvel, KS
Pat + Carol Cairier	Cottonwood Jalls Ks

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STATE OF KANSAS





13910 W. 58TH PLACE SHAWNEE, KS 66216 (913) 268-9306 mary@pilchercook.com

SENATE

Testimony by Senator Mary Pilcher Cook Senate Judiciary Committee – SCR 1615 Friday, January 15, 2010

Dear Chairman Owens and members of the committee:

Thank you for the hearing on this resolution, sponsored by 24 Kansas state senators, urging Congress and the President to respect the 10th amendment of the U.S. Constitution. It urges deference for state sovereignty, and emphasizes the duty of the federal government to recognize the limited nature of its own powers.

It was the states that came together to create and define the federal government. Our founding Fathers recognized the great potential for a power struggle between the federal and state governments, so they took care to list in our U.S. Constitution only those powers absolutely necessary for the protections and the survival of the union. They knew from experience that anything more generous could lead the federal government to tyranny.

Power was always meant to reside with the states. At this date, in this time, and at this hour, it is the duty of the states to re-establish and preserve the people's liberty. This resolution represents the people's voice. And it's a voice that resonates when combined with the voices in other states, "Don't tread on our liberty."

It is a spirited charge for Kansas citizens to take strength from the knowledge that there are Kansas Legislators who also love their country and are active in their state, working to protect their liberty.

> Senate Judiciary /-/5-/0 Attachment /

Senators who have Co-Sponsored SCR 1615

Mary Pilcher Cook President Steve Morris Vice President John Vratil Majority Leader Derek Schmidt

Steve Abrams Pat Apple Jim Barnett Karin Brownlee Terry Bruce Jeff Colyer Les Donovan Jay Emier Tim Huelskamp Dick Kelsey Julia Lynn Bob Marshall Ty Masterson Carolyn McGinn Ralph Ostmeyer Mike Petersen Dennis Pyle Jean Schodorf Mark Taddiken Susan Wagle

Federal Officials who have voiced support for SCR 1615

Congressman Todd Tiahrt Fourth District -- Kansas Congressman Jerry Moran First District -- Kansas

State Representatives who have voiced support for SCR 1615

Speaker Mike O'Neal Majority Leader Ray Merrick Speaker Pro-Tem Arlen Siegfreid Virgil Peck, Majority Caucus Chairman Anthony Brown Steve Brunk Richard Carlson Pete DeGraaf Owen Donohoe Mario Goico Kasha Kelley Lance Kinzer Peggy Mast

Jim Morrison Connie O'Brien Marc Rhoades Don Schroeder

Organizations in Support of SCR 1615

November Patriots Salina TEA Party WethePeopleFoundation.org Kansas State Rifle Association Kansas 912 Project Political CHIPS Leavenworth County Republican Party

Names in Support of SCR 1615

Note: This list is updated several times a week.

Ronald Abbott Overland Park, KS

Mark Aberle Wichita, KS

Phillip Absher *Lawrence, KS*

Starr Adams Independence, KS

Megan Adcock Cottonwood Falls, KS

Richard Adelson Wichita, KS

Lizabeth Aguinaldo Paul Aguinaldo *Wichita, KS*

Tray Ailshie Overland Park, KS Alice R Eaton Rose Hill, KS

Robbie S. Eagle

Arkansas City, KS

Charles Eaton Rose Hill, KS

Theresa Knipper Ebel Lenexa, KS

Sharon K. Eby Overland Park, KS

AI & Cherry Edwards Wichita, KS

Stephanie Edwards Haysville, KS

Mike Egan Donna Egan *Shawnee, KS* David Kirby Overland Park, KS

Olathe Republican Party

Hope for America Coalition

Kansas Campaign for Liberty

Northwest Johnson County Republicans

Kansas 912 Coalition -- Barton County, KS

Coalition of Citizen Advocacy Groups (CCAG) Heart of America Chapter of the Patriots Coalition

Julia M. Kirk Winchester, KS

Maxine Kirkpatrick Wichita, KS

Charmagne Kissinger Udall, KS

Devon & Paula Kissinger Lawrence, KS

Kathryn Kist Olathe, KS

Ann Klein Leawood, KS

Larry Klein Leawood, KS Robert Rosenstiel Wichita, KS

Karen Rowe Wichita, KS

Linda Roy Shawnee, KS

Ron Roy Shawnee, KS

Richard Rozman Olathe, KS

R.W. Ruppert Diane K. Ruppert *Hoyt, KS*

Beverly Russell Goddard, KS

Brian Russell Nickerson, KS

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port Kansas State Sovereignty under the 10th Amendment

Gloria Alatorre Shawnee, KS

Steven M. Albright Valley Center, KS

Jerry Albright Olathe, KS

Olivia C. Alexander Overland Park, KS

Chad Allen Lenexa, KS

Jerry Allen *Mulvane, KS*

Jerry Aller Hiawatha, KS

Charles Ammel Lenexa, KS

Kathleen Ammel, O.D. Lawrence, KS

Lois Ammel Lawrence, KS

Charles W.H. Anderson Lenexa, KS

L. Karen Anderson Craig M. Anderson Valley Falls, KS

Nels Anderson Spring Hill, KS

Oliver Anderson Wichita, KS

Christy Andruss Shawnee, KS

Bob Anson Betty Anson Arkansas City, KS

Noreen Applegate Lawrence, KS

Larry Armstrong So. Hutchinson, KS

Shaun & Jan Arness Shawnee, KS

Donald Arnold Wichita, KS

Patty Arredondo Wichita, KS

Traci Asher Rock, KS DeeAnn Assmann Gene and Gwen Eidman Emporia, KS

Louis & Sarah Eilerts Piedmont, KS

Caleb Elder Sherlyn Elder *Park City, KS*

Gary Ellenberger Overland Park, KS

Jerry & Carol Elliott Paola, KS

Wichita, KS Jerry Ellsaesser

Nathan Ellis

Lake of the Ozarks, MO Richard Elmore

Albert, KS

Toby Elster *Wichita, KS*

Seth Enderby Lenexa, KS Georgia Engstrand

Mulvane, KS Keith Esau

Olathe, KS

Jane Eskam *Cimarron, KS*

Alan Esken Cimarron, KS

Judy Esterline Overland Park, KS

Susan Estes *Wichita, KS*

Richard Estrin Stilwell, KS

Todd Eubanks St.Marys,KS

Linda Eustace Lenexa, KS

Bill Evans Olathe, KS

Sharon Evans Roeland Park, KS

Terry Evans *Wichita, K*S Steve Klein Salina, KS

Anthony Kleman Denise Kleman Derby, KS

Bonnie Kmetz Salina, KS

Steve Kmetz Salina, KS

Jill Kneuper St. Mary's, KS

Dana Knight Jane Knight Andover, KS

David Knight Peck, KS

Medeana Knipp Larry Knipp Tonganoxie, KS

Don Kobiskie Derby, KS

Robert Kobler Jeanne Kobler Shawnee, KS

Dedrick Koch Severy, KS

Shirley Koehn Wichita, KS

Kalyn Kovac *Newton, K*S

Owen H. Krase wichita, KS

Andrew Kratz *Lawrence, KS*

Loren Kraus Salina, KS

Barbara Kriegshauser Overland Park, KS

Dennis R. Kuhn Arkansas City, KS

Frank Kutilek Wichita, KS

Chris Lakey Whitewater, KS

Brent Landis Silver Lake, KS Owen Russell Wichita, KS

John Saddler *Agra, Kansas*

Helen Sageser Ronald Sageser *Mulvane, KS*

Erma Sanders John Sanders *Topeka, KS*

Jacquie Sanders Wichita, KS

Paul Sandford Hutchinson, KS

Dexter & Cecilia Sandifer Lake Quivira, KS

Richard Sandifer Gross Pointe Park, MI

Loyce Sansing Wichita, KS

Kathryn Sattler Mulvane, KS

Ann Marie Scahill Lenexa, KS

Mary Jane Schermuly Wichita, KS

Shirley Schilling Shawnee, KS

Glen Scherdin Wichita, KS

Tom Scherer Overland Park, KS

Thomas Schermuly Andover, KS

Cheryl Schrock Rose Hill, KS

Grant Schutlz Shawnee, KS

Frank O. Schilpp Wichita, KS

Richard C. Schmidt Susan J. Schmidt Overland Park, KS

James Schmitt Rossville, KS

Connie Schweer

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upport Kansas State Sovereignty under the 10th Amendment

Lenexa, KS

Kristyn Assmann *Lenexa*, KS

John & Kathy Eck Attica, KS

Ronald Austin Sylvia Austin Salina, KS

Wendy Aylworth Wichita, KS

Pamela Honnold Bacon Overland Park, KS

Gratia Baehr Overland Park, KS 66210

Janeen Bailey Greeley, KS

Jack Baker Topeka, KS

Ken Baker Overland Park, KS

Sandy Bales Andale, KS

Russell & Deanne Ballard Whitewater, KS

Bernie Bancroft Shawnee, KS

John Banks Fort Worth, TX

Teddy and Kay Banks Toronto, KS

Robert A. Barber Spring Hill, KS

Joshua Barnes Concordia, KS

Sherry Barnett Cedar Vale, KS

Colin Barnes Lenexa, KS

Glen Barnum, Sr. Wichita, KS

Pete Barrett Shawnee, KS

Thomas Barriner Goddard, KS

Bruce Barron

Richard L. Eyestone Junction City, KS

Steve Fanestil Colwich, KS

Kerry Farnsworth Peck, KS

Bob Farris Lee Farris Christopher Farris Crystal Farris Olathe, Kansas

C. Didrick Fegley Kansas City, Ks.

Alan Felton *Lenexa, K*S

James P Fern Mary E Fern Overland Park, KS

Alice Finley El Dorado, KS

Janice Firestone *Topeka, KS*

Linda Flanagan Leavenworth, KS

Edward Fletchard Wichita, KS

Barry & Sandy Flohrschutz Holton, KS

Elizabeth Foltz Toronto, KS

Sara Fones Wichita, KS

Galen M. Ford Overland Park, KS

Martha Fore Wichita, KS

Linda Foreman Prairie Village, KS

Jim Foster *Wamego, K*S

Sandra Foster *Wichita, KS*

Jean Fox Overland Park, KS

Judy Franz Belle Plaine, KS Marjorie Lange *Lake Quivira, KS*

Bruno Langer Topeka, KS

Andrew Langford Leawood, KS

Laurent and Jennifer Laporte Leawood, KS

Al Larson Wichita, KS

Donald Laurie Mulvane, KS

Beverly Ann Lavery Shawnee, KS

Edward A Law MSG, US Army Retired Overland Park, KS

Michelle Lazcano Mulvane, KS

Mrs. Margene Leach Derby, KS

Christine Leifker Topeka, KS

Lee Leiser Newton, KS

Robert Lembke Overland Park, KS

Amanda P. Levinn Atchison, KS

John F. Levinn III Atchison, Ks

Julia M. Levinn Atchison, KS

Patricia Lightner Former State Representative Candidate for Congress Olathe, KS

AI & Loree Lilly Lenexa, KS

Bill Lindquist Overland Park, KS

Josh Lloyd Clay Center, KS

Lynn Lohmeyer Salina, KS

Harley Longmire

Overland Park, KS

Page 3 of

Larry Seitter Olathe, KS

Logan and Marjorie Sell Olathe, KS

James Sell Auburn, KS

Scott Sennett Wichita, KS

Walter Serafin Shawnee, KS

Jeane Serpan *Wichita, KS*

Robert Serpan Wichita, KS

Kenneth L Servos Fontana, KS

William Setchell Wichita, KS

Darrell Shanteau St. John, KS

Raymond Shaw Merriam, KS

Steve Shea Overland Park, KS

Thelma Sue Shehan Topeka, Ks

Adam and Emily Shepard *McPherson, KS*

John Sherwood Derby, KS

Jon Shields Wichita, KS

Lyann Shields *Wichita, KS*

Gerald S. Shoemaker Wichita, KS

Gordon Shoup Rita Shoup Wichita, KS

Steve Shute Gardner, KS

Sandra Shutt Wally Shutt

Jerry Simmons

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Lenoir, NC

Larry and Linda Barshaw Kansas City, KS

Donavan Bartlow Wichita, KS

Scot Bateman Olathe, KS

Rick Bauman Haven, KS

Greg Beal Overland Park, KS

Anthony L. Beardmore Stephanie G. Beardmore

Jack C. Beardmore Wichita, KS

Don & Lucretia Beaton Hutchinson, KS

Matt & Becky Beaven Shawnee, KS

Carol Becker Wichita, KS

Lee Beckerman Hutchinson, KS

Barbara Beeman Bella Vista, AR

Daniel Bell Harveyville, KS

James Bell Derby, KS

Laura Bell Derby, KS

Tom & Susan Bender Olathe, KS

Robert Benhman Shawnee, KS

Barbara Bennett Hutchinson, KS

Brad Bennett Andover, KS

Jared Bennett Wichita, KS

Willard T. Bennett Hutchinson, KS

Dan & Connie Berg Gardner, KS Frank B. Freeland Wichita, KS

Blaine & Cheryl Freidline Overland Park, KS

Lisa Friedrichsen Overland Park, KS

Jerry Frisbie *Pratt, K*S

Kevin Froggatte Kimberly Froggatte Pomona, KS

Nora P. Frontaura Shawnee , Kansas

George and Dixie Fross Hays, KS

Gary Frost Pam Frost *Augusta, K*S

Richard Fry Olathe, KS

Bud Frye *Olathe, K*S

Dennis T. Frye *Lenexa, KS*

Kevin Frye Overland Park, KS

Linda Fyre Overland Park, KS

Michael Frye Tonganoxie, KS

Dorothy Funk-Daves Wakarusa, KS

David Futrelle Olathe, Ks

Mark Gake Olathe, KS

Sandi Gaither Stilwell, KS

Junious Gammill *Wichita, KS*

Lillian Gammill *Wichita, K*S

Don Gascoigne Ruth Gascoigne Overland Park, KS

Charles Gavin

Leavenworth, KS

David Loomis Wichita, KS

Dave Lord Olathe, KS

Karen Lord Olathe, KS

David Losey Olathe, KS

David & Leonor Loughridge Wichita, KS

Pete and Denny Lorenze Overland Park, KS

Gerald D. Luke, Sr. Olathe, KS

Debbie Luper Andover, KS

Jim Lynch Cheney, KS

John Macklin Winfield, KS

Steve & Joan Macy Lenexa, KS

William Mages Tonganoxie, KS

Megan Mahaney Patrick Mahaney Mt. Hope, KS

Sean Mahoney *Kansas City, KS*

Michael Mai *Russell, KS*

Anne Maki Goddard, KS

Craig Maki Goddard, KS

Jim Maklin Wichita, KS

Maria Mamaril Wichita, KS

Alan & Vicki Manke El Dorado, KS

Dick & Lydia Mann Overland Park, KS

Lee Manske

Wichita, KS

Reed Simpson Bucyrus, Kansas

Leo Sims Mulvane, KS

Tisha Sinclair Topeka, KS

Brenda Singleton Wichita, KS

Shaaron Skalenda Hutchinson, KS

Paul Sluka Black Diamond, WA

Edward Skalenda Hutchinson, KS

Arlya Smith *Wichita, K*S

Cleve & Jaime Smith Augusta, KS

Debra Smith Wichita, KS

Florence Smith Shawnee, KS

James Smith Russell, KS

Oscar Smith Olathe, KS

Tim Smith Mulvane, KS

Vicki Smith *Augusta, K*S

Wendy L. Smith Wichita, KS

Gregg & Julie Snell Shawnee, KS

James Snell Shawnee, Ks

Pat Snellen *Wichita, KS*

Sharon Snyder-Tompkins Dodge City, KS

Karl & Sonja Soldatov Wichita, KS

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Robert J. Denzel Overland Park, KS

Amanda Dewoodv Shawnee, Kansas

Tony DiCenzano Wichita, KS

Grant Doeden Wichita, KS

Gerald Domitrovic Wichita, KS

John Donart Olathe, KS

Mark Dopps Wichita, KS

Milt Dougherty Little River

Mary Douglass Salina, KS

Paul M. Dow Wichita, KS

Marsha Doyenne Concordia, KS

Chuck Draskovich Olathe, KS

Muriel Drew Wichita, KS

Keri Drowatzlay Celeste Drowatzlav Wichita, KS

Dorothy Drown Salina, KS

Kameron Dugan Manhattan, KS

D G Duesin Spearville, Ks

Alan Dunz Shawnee, KS

Elena M. Dyche Topeka, KŠ

Jerry Dykstra June Dykstra Miltonvale, KS Shawnee, KS

Larry Kelly Lawrence, KS

Rhonda Kemp

Derby, KS

Brandon Kenig Shawnee, KS

Dan Kennedy Lenexa, KS

Gary Kenney Topeka, KS

Mary Kensworthy Mulvane, KS

Richard W. Kerns Jr. Humboldt, KS

Karen Kessler Lenexa, KS

John & Ruth Kettler Shawnee, KS

Evelyn Keune Viola, KS

Rob Kiesling Shawnee, KS

Doyle Kifer Wichita, KS

Brandon Kimble Derby, KS

Martha King Saint Marys, KS

Linda Klingman Wichita, KS

Chris Kipp Kansas City, KS

Alisha Kirby Olathe, KS

Ginny Riebhoff Herington, KS

Charles and Rujira Rightmeier Topeka, KS

Doris Riley Overland Park, KS

Larry & Sherry Rink Overland Park, KS

Kenneth C. & Martha L. Rislev Overland Park, KS

Stacey Risner Manhattan, KS

Dillon Roark Overland Park, KS

Andrew J. Roberts Chanute, KS

Earnest Roberts, Jr. Wichita. KS

Gary Robinson Andover, KS

Jeremy Robinson Wichita, KS

Jim Robinson Wellington, KS

Luther Robinson Shirlev Robinson Lindsborg, KS

Dustin Robison Wichita, KS

Stan Robison Wichita, KS

James Rodman Goddard, KS

Billy Roe Grenola, KS

Bruce D. Roelfs Susan G. Roelfs St. Francis, KS

Gwen Rogers Jerry Rogers Eudora, KS

Brian Root Wichita, KS

Robert Round Leawood, KS

James Rosberg

John C. Wood Shawnee, KS

Jim Woods Lawrence, KS

Pam Woods Wichita, KS

Ric Woolsey Wichita, KS

James Woomack Wichita, KS

Jason Worley Overland Park, KS

Donald Worthey Shelby Worthey Liberal, KS

Harlen Wright Derby, KS

Rick and Kerry Wright Whiting, KS

Lida Wurtenberger Shawnee, KS

Tim Wyatt Derby, KS

Dr. Steve Wyckoff Wichita, KS

Garv Yantis Shawnee, KS

Gerald Yoachum Wichita, KS

Kenneth A. Yost Janet S. Yost Wichita, KS

Teri Yost Gorham, KS

Nancy Young Wichita, KS

Will Younkman Newton, KS

Ted Yulich Kansas City, KS

Laura Zauchenberg Lake Quivira, KS

Brian and Nancy Ziegler Middlebury, CT

Dan & Leslie Zinser Shawnee, KS

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Prairie Village, KS

Miriam Rose *Mulvane, K*S Kaytie Zinser Shawnee, KS

Paul Rosell *Wichita, KS*

> /-/5 1/14/2010

http://www.nilchercook.com/TenthAmendment/

Capitol Office State Capitol, Room 262-E Topeka, KS 66612 785-296-7359

Home Address P.O. Box 379 Fowler, Kansas 67844 (620) 646-5413 Tim.Huelskamp@senate.ks.gov



STATE OF KANSAS

Senator Tim Huelskamp, Ph.D.

Testimony by Senator Tim Huelskamp Senate Judiciary Committee – SCR 1615 Friday, January 15, 2010

Dear Chairman Owens and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

I am here today to encourage the passage of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 1615, also known as the Kansas Sovereignty Resolution.

In the United States, the U.S. Constitution is the supreme law of the land. All of this law is applicable, not just the pieces and portions that politicians find convenient. For years, those in Washington have only selectively followed the Constitution, and one of their most egregious faults is their failure to adhere to the 10th Amendment.

The 10th Amendment states that "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people." This resolution serves two very important purposes.

First and foremost, it sends the message to Washington that they are not all-powerful. This is a reminder to them that in our federalist system, the powers of government are divided between the federal government and the states. In essence, we are telling Washington to knock it off. It is time for states to reclaim their constitutional authority to govern themselves in the areas not specifically delineated in the Constitution to be the province of the federal government.

Secondly, but also importantly, this resolution will help educate the public about the 10th Amendment and what its proper role in our federalist system is. This portion of the Constitution has been undervalued for far too long, and the states and the people are reaping the consequences. The states have a proper role within the American political framework, just as the federal government does. The more people become aware of the 10th Amendment and the proper balance of power between the states and the federal government, the better the prospects for the future of our Republic.

With that, I urge the adoption of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 1615.

Thank you for your time.

Senate Judiciary $\frac{1-15-10}{4}$ Attachment 2

Committee Assignments

Agriculture Education Information Technology Local Government STATE OF KANSAS

DICK KELSEY STATE SENATOR, 26RD DISTRICT 24047 W. MACARTHUR GODDARD, KANSAS 67052

STATE CAPITOL 547-N 300 S.W. 10TH AVENUE TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612 (785) 296-7367 dandd@carrollsweb.com



COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS COMMERCE FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND INSURANCE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE

SENATE CHAMBER

Testimony

By Senator Dick Kelsey

Senate Judiciary Committee

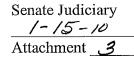
January 15, 2010

The founding fathers of our country established a national government that was designed to be very limited in scope and power. This is why the 10th amendment declares that those powers not given to the national government are reserved for the states.

We have moved seriously away from this principle. I believe that there is value in Kansas and other states to remind our federal leaders of this very important foundation of our government.

I recommend passage of this resolution.

Sincere Kelsey



TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE REGARDING SCR 1615 ON JANUARY 15, 2010

Mr. Chairman and Committee Members: I am Dr. George Watson from Wichita. I am President of the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons, the foremost advocates for patient confidentiality and the private practice of medicine. I am also a U.S. Air Force Combat Veteran—sworn to uphold the Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic.

*Support for SCR-1615, Healthcare Freedom Amendment

I, and the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons, strongly support the sovereignty of all states under the 10th Amendment of the Constitution. As you recall, this was the ONLY amendment ratified by ALL of the original states.

*Patients are Scared Stiff!

Patients young and old are afraid of bureaucrats making health decisions FOR them. The House/Senate health bill has 2,500 references to the POWERS and responsibilities of the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

There are 150 references to FINES and PENALTIES for violating the new federal rules.

*Betrayal of trust, treachery, trickery, deceit

These words define TREASON! The closed-door meetings, lies about the details, bribes, and votes in the dead of night PROVE that we need SCR-1615 to protect the citizens of the great state of Kansas. We can NOT leave our fellow citizens at the mercy of an out of control federal assault on the Constitution.

*In conclusion, Kansas needs SCR-1615 to protect our citizens NOW. Then we can work at SENSIBLE health care reform that will not only meet the needs of the PATIENTS, but will truly SAVE MONEY. I have such a plan.

Dr. George Watson

Senate Judiciary 1-15-10 Attachment 4

Testimony of Professor Kris W. Kobach

Professor of Constitutional Law University of Missouri—Kansas City

January 15, 2010

Regarding S.C.R. 1615

Before the Kansas Senate, Committee on the Judiciary

Senate Judiciary 1-15-10 Attachment 5

The Framers' Intended Distribution of State and Federal Power

"The powers delegated by the proposed Constitution to the federal government, are few and defined. Those which are to remain in the State governments are numerous and indefinite. The former will be exercised principally on external objects, as war, peace, negotiation, and foreign commerce; with which last the power of taxation will, for the most part, be connected. The powers reserved to the several States will extend to all the objects which, in the ordinary course of affairs, concern the lives, liberties, and properties of the people, and the internal order, improvement, and prosperity of the State."

-James Madison, *The Federalist*, No. 45, January 26, 1788.

The above-quoted statement from James Madison above makes clear the Framers' intentions concerning the respective scope of state and federal power. Madison's statement is reflected in abbreviated form in the Tenth Amendment. From the drafting of the U.S. Constitution in 1787, to the so-called "switch in time" by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1937, the federal system of government operated according to the Framers' plan. The overwhelming majority of laws that affected the daily lives of Americans were state laws, not federal laws. The states retained sovereign authority over "the internal order, improvement, and prosperity" of the nation.

The Erosion of State Sovereignty in the Twentieth Century

Things began to change dramatically in 1937. With the U.S. Supreme Court's decisions in *NLRB v. Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp.*, 301 U.S. 1 (1937), and *Wickard v. Filburn*, 317 U.S. 111 (1942), the Court ended 150 years of jurisprudence and adopted an understanding of the Commerce Clause of Article I, Section 8 that was much broader. Under this new vision of the Commerce Clause, Congress was no longer restricted to regulating interstate commerce itself. Instead, Congress could also regulate things that merely had an "effect" on interstate commerce.

Fifty years later, a second hole emerged in the wall of that had previously protected state sovereignty. This breach concerned the increasingly broad interpretation of Congress's spending power. In *South Dakota v. Dole*, 483 U.S. 203 (1987), the Supreme Court ruled that Congress could make large grants of money to the states while imposing conditions on the grants that required the states to regulate consistent with congressional wishes. This development was so pivotal because Congress was thereafter able to indirectly regulate areas listed nowhere in the enumeration of congressional powers in Article I of the U.S. Constitution. In effect, the spending power had become a tool of extortion, allowing Congress to force states to regulate according to the federal government's wishes.

The Current Threat to State Sovereignty

The present situation is a dire one. The Congress of 2009-2010, in cooperation with the Obama Administration, has radically widened both of these holes in the wall of state sovereignty. With respect to the commerce power, both houses of Congress have passed versions of health care reform bills that unconstitutionally require all Americans to purchase health insurance. Never before has the federal government's commerce power been used to force Americans to purchase anything.

With respect to the spending power, the erosion of state sovereignty in the past year has already occurred. It has been dramatic and unmistakable. The reason that this power can be used so effectively to encroach upon state power is that virtually all of the states (including Kansas) are required by their state constitutions to maintain a balanced budget. In contrast, the federal government can incur deficits of enormous size without restriction.

A perfect storm is now occurring with respect to the spending power and state sovereignty. The erosion of state sovereignty is greatest when an economic recession depresses state revenues and makes states more dependent on handouts from the federal government, as well as when the federal government is most willing to engage in deficit spending. Both of those phenomena are now occurring. The present recession has cut into state revenues; and Congress has shattered all previous spending records, incurring a \$1.4 trillion deficit—three times larger than any previous deficit.

Accordingly, Congress and the Obama Administration have gained unprecedented leverage by holding federal dollars over the states' heads. In Kansas, we see this most clearly in the area of K-12 education spending. As a condition of accepting federal stimulus money, the state is prohibited from eliminating education programs or reducing K-12 spending below the 2006 level. Regardless of whether one agrees with those constraints or not, all must recognize that the federal government does not have the authority to make that judgment. A sovereign state makes its own spending decisions, with that power in the hands of the state legislature. By accepting the federal stimulus dollars under economic duress, Kansas gave away a portion of its sovereignty.

What S.C.R. 1615 Accomplishes

In and of itself, S.C.R. 1615 does not stop this erosion of state sovereignty. However, it does serve an important purpose. It is a formal declaration by the state of Kansas that the boundaries of federal power established by the U.S. Constitution have been breached. It is akin to a notice of a breach of contract, signifying that future actions may be taken by the state of Kansas in light of this breach. It is therefore an important statement for the state of Kansas to make, along with other states.

Ultimately, this resolution will have to be backed up by future action in the Kansas Legislature. Will this Legislature again give up a portion of the state's sovereignty in accepting federal dollars? Just remember, when the time comes, that sovereignty does not belong to the Kansas Legislature, it belongs to the people of Kansas.

5-3

Testimony in favor of SCR 1615

Deborah Lucia, Topeka, KS

State's Rights Committee, Topeka912Project

The entire constitution fits in this 3"x 6" pamphlet. The 10th amendment says "the powers not given to the federal gov't in are to be in the hands of the people." This constitution I can hold in my hand and uphold in my life. This Ream of Paper is the size of Pelosi's healthcare bill. The Senate's bill is just as thick. Who in this room can guarantee that what is in those bills safeguards the freedom of Kansans? Who in this room can carry one law this size around all day, let alone implement it in your daily life?

Our constitutional rights as a state disappear under the weight of laws like this one. When our state's rights are threatened, our individual rights are threatened. We become subjects of the Federal government instead of citizens.

Have we learned nothing from history? The larger the government, the greater the trend toward corruption and abuse of power. If this federal bill passes as it is now, nearly \$10 million could be taken from Kansans to pay for Medicaid costs for Nebraska and Louisiana. Senators, why would you allow that? I don't want a penny of my tax dollars going to NE or LA. I don't want Kansans leaving our state to move to Nebraska or Louisiana because those states get deals Kansans don't.

Our founding fathers knew our federal government needed to be strong enough to protect us as a nation but limited in scope to preserve our freedoms as citizens, the freedoms outlined in, but not limited to, the Bill of Rights. Those freedoms are being trampled by an out of control federal government, unable or unwilling to focus on its first task – protecting our borders from enemies.

We expect Kansas Senators to uphold our state's rights and put a stop to the federal government's unconstitutional power grabs. We as Kansans have to say "no more." You as our representatives have to tell the federal government "no more." "No more" money, "no more" unfunded mandates, "no more" encroachment on our state's sovereignty.

Strong, local government is the key to preserving our freedom. The Reid and Pelosi bills give Washington lawmakers control of Kansas. Do we really want Washington law-makers making decisions for Kansans? How many have set foot in Kansas? Do they have any idea what we need as a state? Do they care? I doubt it very much.

We need Kansas to behave like a sovereign state. We need Kansas to *be* a sovereign state. My future, my children's futures and the financial future of all Kansans depend on that.

American Historian John Fiske predicted "If the day should ever arrive (Which God forbid) when the people of the different parts of our country shall allow their local affairs to be administered by prefects sent from Washington... that day ... the American people will have been robbed of its most interesting and valuable features and the usefulness of this nation will be lamentably impaired." That day has come. I can hold this constitution in one hand. I can't carry the weight of this one healthcare bill.

Senators, we need you to protect our rights as Kansans and vote for SCR 1615.

Thank you.

Deborah Lucia, Topeka, KS

Senate Judiciary 1-15-10 Attachment

Senate Judiciary Committee

Thank you chairman for allowing me to speak on this legislation, it is way overdue. Something has been happening that many view with alarm. Federal agencies have been ignoring the limits placed on them by the Constitution.

When the revolutionary war ended the Constitutional Compact became the source of power in the federal agencies. In this compact is the state legislative power. It is the responsibility of the state legislature to correct the usurpation of federal agencies. The oath of office our elected representatives take to protect and defend our Constitution. We are on the front line of defense and we are being sold out at high places.

These agencies have taken powers that have not been delegated to them. There have not been any open applications made to the state to exercise this power. If any agency tells us that if we enforce the 10th amendment authority we will forfeit funds, They should be reminded that we supplied these funds and by state legislative authority the funds can be taken back from those who chose their will over ours.

State Sovereignty is "the supreme final authority free from external control" We have the opportunity today along with many other states that should pass the 10th Amendment action. This will help put us on the road back to Constitutional government. According to the Webster's dictionary the oath of office that our elected officials take is a "legal and moral obligation" and in my opinion, it is a duty to our citizens in which they should follow the United States Constitution.

Here are a few of the court rulings that can help along with what is already in this legislation today:

The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled,

"Where rights secured by the Constitution are involved, there can be no rule making or legislation which would abrogate them..."(Miranda vs. Arizona), "and law repugnant to the Constitution is void..."(Maybury vs. Madison).

In 1989 ACIR (Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations)

"Hearings on Constitutional Reform of Federalism: Statements by State & Local Government Association Representatives"

"The Supreme Court made it clear that the government entities outside of the federal government ought to be addressing such inequities in the federal system through the political process."

"That's the general term used by the justices. What "political process" means specifically is left open. But they were saying, don't expect us to arbitrate your differences, and if you force us to arbitrate those differences in the court structure, don't expect us to settle these cases in the direction you want."

Thank you again for allowing me to present this to you. Please pass this legislation.

Signed Concerned Citizen, Greg Dye

Grey Pye

Senate Judiciary Attachment

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1615 HEARING JANUARY 15, 2010

Thank you Mr. Chairman and honorable members of the Committee, for allowing me to testify before you today. My name is Patricia Stoneking and I am from Bonner Springs, KS. I am the President and official lobbyist for The Kansas State Rifle Association. I represent over 3400 members as well as myself. I am a proponent of Senate Concurrent Resolution Number 1615.

I come before you today to ask you to send a message to Washington D.C. I ask you to inform them that the people of Kansas, as residents of a sovereign state, will no longer tolerate the unconstitutional usurpation of states rights.

The tenth amendment of the United States Constitution clearly states, "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people."

Our federal government has continually increased suppression of our sovereignty and has increased dramatically in size and influence. They are appropriating power not given to it by the Constitution. They continue to widen the interpretation of the Commerce Clause to the point of contradicting the original meaning of the constitution. In the case of Daniel V. Paul in 1969, the Court ruled that the federal government could regulate a recreational facility because three out of the four items sold at its snack bar were purchased from outside the state. That is completely ridiculous and outside the powers intended.

Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor said, "Congress will nibble away at state sovereignty, bit by bit, until someday essentially nothing is left but a gutted shell." I agree with Justice O'Connor.

We have gotten to a point that everything we do, what we buy, everywhere we go, all aspects of our lives, are being regulated by the federal government in some way. How long do we think that the American people are going to quietly sit back and allow such intrusion and such oppression of their rights.

We must push back against these unconstitutional laws being passed by the federal government. We must demand that they cease and desist all activity outside of their constitutional powers. If this unconstitutional behavior is allowed to continue I would ask you all to try and imagine that your services are no longer needed in the Statehouse because there is no longer any use for a State Legislature because the federal government will be controlling everything.

The federal government has become a renegade. A run away train. Every state must stop the train before it derails. This resolution sends them that message. 39 other states have already sent them this message. I urge you to join those states.

Thank you for allowing me this time to speak to you today and I will be happy to stand for questions at the appropriate time.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Patricia A. Stoneking 13812 Stillwell Rd Bonner Springs, KS 66012 (913) 441-4436 Home (913) 667-3044 Office (913) 522-4765 Cell Email: PAStoneking@kc.rr.com

Kansas State Rifle Association P. O. Box 1119 Wichita, KS 67201 (316) 264-2727 Email: ksramembership@cox.net

> Senate Judiciary $\frac{1-15-10}{\text{Attachment } 8}$

W. Paul Degener P.O. Box 8536 Topeka, KS 66608-0536

(785) 246-0215 w.degener@sbcglobal.net

January 15, 2010

SUBJECT: SCR 1615, Declaration of States Sovereignty

Mr. Chairman and members of this committee, my name is Paul Degener and I appear before this body as concerned citizen in support Senate Concurrent Resolution 1615.

In my opinion, it is important to be familiar with Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution to fully appreciate the meaning of the Tenth Amendment.

In Federalist #45 written in 1788, James Madison wrote:

"The powers delegated by the proposed Constitution to the federal government are few and defined. Those which are to remain in the State governments are numerous and indefinite."

We find most of these well defined and limited powers in Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution. Everyone in government should be familiar with these well defined and limited powers, and as a minimum should carry with them at all times a pocket edition of the Constitution. This one I have fits nicely in a pocket or purse. And guess what, it is only 48 pages long.

Listed below are the agencies that have been established by the federal government that are **NOT** among those listed in Article I, Section 8 or anywhere else in the Constitution:

- 1. Education
- 2. Transportation
- 3. Agriculture
- 4. Energy
- 5. Health & Human Services
- 6. Housing and Urban Development
- 7. Department of the Interior
- 8. Environmental Protection Agency
- 9. National Health Care
- 10. The Federal Reserve

The foregoing list is not all inclusive.

It should be apparent that the federal government pays no attention to the Constitution and the same applies to state governments. The states are complicit in this by allowing themselves to be

Senate Judiciary 1-15-10 Attachment

extorted by the federal government with promises of so-called federal dollars, and threats of with-holding those dollars if the states do not comply with their demands. That is extortion or bribery, any way you look at it. They are bribing us with our own money. It is not theirs to give, it is our money.

Just imagine, if the federal government were restricted to those powers delegated to them by the Constitution, how much of our tax dollars would be saved. We could probably raise state taxes and still be better off than we are now.

If we connect all of the dots, it is not difficult to see that we have powers in Washington from both parties whose main objective is to lead the United States into the New World Order. It is up to the state legislatures and the citizens to stop this crisis if it is not already too late.

Pass this resolution; it will be a start in the right direction for Kansas and the Republic. Let us join those other states who are taking similar actions.

I want to leave you with this quote from Thomas Jefferson:

The Works of Thomas Jefferson - Page 475

Thomas Jefferson, Paul Leicester Ford - <u>United States</u> - 1904 In questions of power, then, let no more be heard of confidence in man, but bind him down from mischief by the chains of the Constitution. ...

Thank you for allowing me to appear before this body.

9-2

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, I wish to thank you for taking the time to hear this important resolution this morning. As there is precious little time to hear statements, I will make mine brief.

On September 17, 1787, a truly inspired document was created. The Constitution of the United States was the first modern governing framework that strictly limited the power of government over the people, instead of limiting the rights of the people that were being governed – a concept utterly foreign to any other government of its day.

As part of the compromise that birthed the Constitution, a Bill of Rights was included. These first ten amendments to the Constitution enumerated the most basic rights that would be protected by our government – among them being the right to free speech, assembly, and religion; the unabridged right to keep and bear arms; protection against unreasonable searches and seizures, or self-incrimination. The last of these, the Tenth Amendment, was created to strictly limit the scope and power of the federal government and to make it clear that authority in all matters not explicitly stated in the Constitution would rest exclusively with the States and the People – assuring that the federal government would always act as an agent of the States.

Every employee of the federal government, and every member of our Armed Forces, recites an oath of office which, in part, states, "I solemnly swear that I will support, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic..." For the most part, we have done a good job of defending the Constitution – and this country – against foreign enemies. However, for more than 90 years, enemies domestic have been on the move against our founding document.

For the last century, an increasingly tyrannical central government has been encroaching upon the rights of the individual states and the people to determine their own direction, in direct violation of the Tenth Amendment. Through executive fiats, judicial edicts, unfunded federal mandates, and other unconstitutional laws of all kinds, more and more power has become concentrated in Washington, D.C. In short, our servant – the federal government – has become our master, telling the States what to do, and imposing punitive sanctions and penalties on those States that dare not comply with its wishes.

<u>This practice has to stop</u> – for the sake of the State of Kansas, and for the future of its citizens.

Thirty-eight state legislatures – more than three-quarters of the States in the Union – are considering similar resolutions to SCR-1615 as we speak. It is time for the Sovereign State of Kansas to stand with our fellow states and call for the federal government to cease and desist with its mandates, its restrictions, and its unconstitutional contravention of State Laws.

Be assured that more unconstitutional laws are coming from Washington – involving firearms restrictions, repeals of State Laws regarding the environment, health care, abortion, and marriage – even laws restricting free speech and assembly. The time has come for us to draw a line in the sand and say "enough!" to a federal government that is clearly out of control.

Thank you again for hearing my testimony this morning.

- Steve Shute, 18401 Sycamore Ct, Gardner, KS

Senate Judiciary 1-15-10 Attachment

Lawrence M. Halloran 414 Rucker Ave. Mulvane, KS 67110

316-777-9352 LarryHalloran@aol.com

SUBJECT: SCR 1615, Declaration of States Sovereignty

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Lawrence Halloran and I appreciate the opportunity to testify today in support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 1615, on behalf of my family, and the membership of the Wichita - South Central KS 912 Group.

Today, we are in the midst of a Constitutional crisis; not between the branches of government, but between the government and us, "We the People". It is apparent that those we have elected have lost their faith and confidence in us. Why else would they fail to ask us for the authority to act on issues that are beyond the limits of the authority vested in them by the constitution?

Administration under both parties have expanded government, kicked the can down the road on entitlement issues, and spent us into oblivion. They have assumed, incorrectly, that they know best, and failed to seek our advice and recorded consent for the authority to act on our behalf. We have condoned and legitimized, (at least in their minds) their unconstitutional actions through our silence. If our grandchildren were old enough to understand the hardship headed their way, they would tar and feather us all, and, rightfully so.

As the grandfather of a special needs child with \$823 dollars left in savings, I am attuned to the financial burden that many families face. However, the burden is our responsibility to bare, not governments. The assistance of our neighbors should be voluntary and only within the means they can afford. The difference between neighbors and government is simple. What neighbors give from the heart is for keeps. What is allotted by government will always be subject to revocation.

Today, the unchecked expansion of government at every level threatens to make each of us wards of the state. The increasing tax (directly or indirectly) on our earnings without our consent threatens our ability to meet the basic needs of our families. When government can no longer afford its wards, it will expunge them as it would the Constitution.

I am just a day laborer in this great American experiment, and I trust in our founders' judgment that we should have educated and wise men at the helm of leadership. However, our leaders should at least share our belief in the common principles and values of the natural laws that are cornerstones of our founding and governing documents. These documents secure our rights to the benefits of our labors and to provide for our families.

> Senate Judiciary <u>1-15-10</u> Attachment //

Our first responsibility is to them, beyond which, we have a moral responsibility to help our neighbors with what is left over.

It is time to defend the most important document ever drafted; the Constitution of the United States of America. It is time to rely on its simple language to guide us. It is time to bring our common problems closer to home where we can more efficiently manage their resolution. It is time to again teach personal responsibility, and understand that our greatest strength is individual achievement. It is time to put away the wishful dreams of a perfect world and simply live in the one we have. It is time to acknowledge that life is not fair, and that no amount of human effort will ever make it fair. It is just life, and we are committed to living it until relieved of it

Failure is not an option. We need not travel the destructive path of histories despots. SCR 1615 alone will not resolve the problems of our nation, but it is the warning that free men must offer. Stand with us and pass this resolution.

Thank you for allowing me to appear before this body

11-2



Thank you Mr. Chairman and good morning Committee members;

My name is Greg Ward. I represent the Kansas Sovereignty Coalition and I am here with a few hundred friends to express our will regarding state sovereignty as provided under the Tenth Amendment of the United States Constitution.

During this past year we have seen the federal government act many times beyond the authority we have given them. But we have also seen, and many of us have taken part in, an amazing tea-party movement, where people are taking an active role in our governmental process. Please understand, we are not here as an angry mob but as a collective group of engaged citizens, to respectfully request that you work the proposed legislation and send it to the floor for a vote. Secondly, we seek your support for the future legislation that will surely follow that will put the interests of Kansans above Washington politics.

We recognize the framers of the Constitution gave us a government that balances power between Tyranny and Anarchy. And we also know that we have been complacent in our role of that process and partly to blame for allowing a federal abuse of power. So we are here to testify that we accept our responsibility and pledge our participation in our system of self-government in order to ensure the lifestyle we all work for and enjoy, is maintained for generations to come. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Greg Ward Kansas Sovereignty Coalition

Senate Judiciary 1-15-10 Attachment

Tim Stiles

12077 S. Sunray , Olathe ,Kansas 66061 Telephone # 913-481-2315 Leader of the original kansas912.com organization (not to be confused with the 912.org organization)

We currently have over 500 members throughout the state of Kansas

Business owner in financial Services for 25 years

I live in Olathe , Kansas with my wife , Linda and 3 children

Why I believe kansas should pass the state sovereign bill

The Federal Government has taken us down a path enticing the states to implement and spend money we do not have. Many states including Kansas do not have the money for all the

programs in place. Mandates are attached to funding basically saying we're going to take funding away if you don't do X and force states to comply with some law they want to pass. They

dictate when and how we have to spend the money.

For example Governor Mark Sanford of South Carolina petitioned the white house to aim \$700 million of stimulus towards debt reduction rather than spending . He was told NO !

The biggest losers from a federal bailout are taxpayers who live in fiscally responsible states. They played by the rules and resisted extravagant new spending programs--and will be rewarded with higher taxes to bail out states that went on unaffordable spending sprees. This is simply unfair.

The constitution does not empower the federal government to overrule state laws without restraint. Reinstating the 10th amendment that we are a sovereign state will tell the Federal Government they can no longer tell us to go in a direction we cannot afford.

The Federal Government can print money.

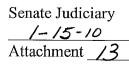
States CANNOT print money !

Deals have been made in the back room on the proposed (Health Care Bill) The latest example is the Ben Nelson of Nebraska who will receive over \$100 million for his state. Tell me, Why should Kansas pay for this.

We are 1 of 20 states asking to pass the state sovereign bill as of right now. As more states pass this it will send a statement to washington that the government is to be the servant of the states and the states are the servants of the people.

Thank you,

Tim Stiles



January 15 Testimony David J. Powell, CLU, ChFC, CFP, RHU Insurance Agent for 32 years El Dorado, Kansas

With budget shortages, YOU need to send the message to Washington that is contained in this resolution. Thank you to the people with common sense who have sponsored this bill telling Congress they are stepping far beyond the powers given them by the designers of our Constitution and by all the amendments to it, including the 10th Amendment.

Many bills in Congress will hurt our state and businesses within our state, not only our budget. John Adams is turning in his grave or laughing so hard he will come up out of it, at the thought of taxing a cow passing gas! The health care bill alone adds to our budget problems with the Congressional inclusion of a larger tab for Medicare and Medicaid for Kansas. New regulatory burdens are put on us and they are openly promoting a fight by threatening to withhold Federal funding on existing programs if we oppose their Reform. Additional costs come with the proposed insurance exchanges. State payrolls will swell to administer all the additional federal programs, with no increase in federal money. I believe these actions are not within the framework of our Constitution and Amendments.

As a candidate for Kansas Commissioner of Insurance, I have promised our citizens that I will do everything I can to get us back to smaller government and to help Kansas by supporting our State's 10th Amendment rights. We can take better care of our citizens ourselves and for far less money.

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10th AMENDMENT

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

When the Constitution was finalized and adopted by the Founding Fathers the criticism outside Constitution Hall was that certain rights of the States were not protected. After the Constitution was ratified the first order of business for the new form of government was to pass the first Ten Amendments (known as the bill of rights).

Going back in History a moment before the Constitutional Convention we were under the Articles of Confederation.

Article II. Each State retains its sovereignty, freedom, and independence, and every power, Jurisdiction and right, which is not by this Confederation expressly delegated to the United States, in Congress assembled.

It is worthy to note that the States (colonies) existed many years before the Federal Convention. Therefore the States created the Federal Government with restrictions on what it could and could not do. The 10th Amendment says "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people". If you agree that the Federal Government was created by the States then it is only reasonable to tell the Federal Government to get back in the bounds set down by the Constitution.

Benny L. Bomon Benny L. Boman

Constitutional Historian

Senate Judiciary 1-15-10 Attachment 15 My name is Rodney Wren. I live in Valley Center. I am a teacher and debate coach at Wichita Collegiate Upper School. And I am the immediate past Chairman of the Harvey County Republican Party.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I come before you today not so much as someone who teaches American government to high schoolers, but rather as someone who is a student of the constitution. Today, what we are discussing takes me weeks to cover in the classroom; here we have almost an hours worth of testimony in support of this resolution and my meager 10 minutes in opposition. I wholeheartedly appreciate the extra time I have been given Mr. Chairman, and I believe it is a testament to your desire to have as thorough a discussion as possible.

Let me begin by saying that I am a conservative. I probably agree with 95% of what the proponents of this resolution believe on an ideological level. However, I am deeply concerned with the language that is used in this resolution, the lack of intellectual honesty in regards to this subject, and the ramifications of both.

First of all, the 10th Amendment is not definitional, it's debatable; and it was meant to be that way. Those who were adamant of the need for a bill of rights were not convinced that the specific, enumerated powers in the constitution were thus limiting powers as the authors of the Federalist Papers argued. The 10th Amendment naturally flows from our founders desire to find compromise. The whole of the constitution and many of its parts were born from this premise. Naturally, where you find compromise, you find interpretation. The absolutist language in this resolution is not only wrong, it's problematic.

The resolution is simply wrong when it says the 10^{th} Amendment defines the scope of federal power. At the most basic level of analysis, the textual level, the wording of the 10^{th} Amendment is vague; and again, it was meant to be. Yale Law Professor Ahkil Amar, one of the preeminent experts on the issue of federalism points out the use of the word "respectively" versus the word "explicitly." He argues that on the most elementary level, if the founders would have wanted the federal government to have authority over just what was textually outlined in the constitution, and states have absolute authority over everything else, they would have used the word "explicitly" in the 10^{th} Amendment.

But as I noted earlier, the language was left vague for a reason. The Bill of Rights was meant to compliment the constitution, not contradict it as some future amendments would. When James Madison was debating the first amendments to the newborn nation on the floor of the House, he understood this. He also understood that he and his fellow drafters of the constitution had put language in there that provided not only explicit, but implied powers. Article 1, section 8, paragraphs 1 and 18 are the foundation for creating a long lasting government. The founders had enough humility to understand that they didn't know what would be needed decades from when they signed the constitution; let alone centuries. Actually, George Washington and Thomas Jefferson didn't even think the newly formed union would last more than a few decades. The implied powers of the federal government to the long lasting nature of our great country is the very debate that is necessitated over not who HAS the power, but who SHOULD have the power.

I understand that many in this room, including myself are frustrated with the growth of our federal government and the ensuing inefficiency and waste that have

Senate Judiciary <u>/-/5-10</u> Attachment <u>/6</u> followed. But for this resolution to wrongly purport that each state is sovereign and can trump the federal government is naïve at best, dangerous at worst. At the fundamental level, Article 6, paragraph 2 of the constitution states that federal law is the supreme law of the land. Now, there was a very tumultuous period in our history in which states decided that they didn't like some decisions made by the federal government. The tumult was heightened by states thinking that they could nullify federal laws, and when the Supreme Court rejected that idea, states opted for secession. The tragedy of the American Civil War was actually sought to be prevented by our constitution. The authors of the federalist papers brilliantly warned against factionalism caused by the desire for state sovereignty and confederation. They recognized the need for a strong national government and what James Madison described as "residual sovereignty" for the states. Alexander Hamilton analogized the balance of power as like our solar system: where the planets all revolve around the sun, yet maintain their separate status, and noting the greater emphasis on a central authority. Admittedly, I'm sure that none of the sponsors of this resolution have plans to advocate secession, but the language in the "be it resolved" clauses are eerily reminiscent of the rhetoric emanating from the states that

If we value the marketplace of ideas and give credence to Aristotle's premise that debate leads us to find the probable truth, I think that it is incumbent upon those who craft public policy and seek to influence policy decisions, to have adequate knowledge about an issue. Furthermore, responsibility of our language choices is paramount in preventing obfuscation of the facts. Conservatives rightly criticize liberals who's rhetoric is hyperbolic when discussing the Patriot Act. Liberals rightly criticize conservatives who's rhetoric always leads them to whip out the patriotism card.

rebelled.

The danger of passing this resolution lies in its hyperbole. And I guarantee you it won't be taken seriously. When municipalities like San Francisco and even North Newton, Kansas passed resolutions declaring themselves Patriot Act Free Zones, they were laughed at. Yes, they were making a symbolic statement of their disagreement with the direction the federal government was headed; but they had no foundational basis in the law for their resolutions. The sponsors of this resolution, no matter how honorable their intentions, will not advance the debate over the proper role of the federal government and the balance of power it shares with states. This resolution will be dismissed, and the laudable effort to highlight the necessity for limited federal government will be set back.

Kansas has such a rich history affecting the tone and dynamics of national policy. Why would we want to advance a resolution that is simply intellectually dishonest? If the State of Kansas wants to send a message to the federal government that it wants Washington, D.C. to quit meddling in areas that aren't outlined specifically in the constitution, then this legislative body should be sending back the money we receive for education, unemployment, medicare, and other federal initiatives. Unless this body is willing to do that, then passage of this resolution is nothing more than hypocritical.

Is it a problem that our federal government's spending habits has brought us to the brink of bankruptcy? Absolutely. Should the people of Kansas stand up and voice their discontent with what is going to lead to higher taxes, outrageous inflation, or never before seen interest rate hikes? Most definitely. The best forum for that is debatable. But I assure you it does not lie within a piece of legislation that ignores facts and ignores

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history. If this body feels the need to send a message to Washington, D.C., and it feels that our elected representatives on Capitol Hill are not adequately voicing our concerns, by all means pass a resolution. But please don't pass a resolution that is incapable of meeting academic muster.

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Kansas lawmakers:

I am strongly in support of state sovereignty as a means of putting up a protective wall to insulate the state of Kansas from a federal government whose laws, mandates, taxation, over-regulation of business and intrusion into the lives of the citizenry are fast dismantling/ crippling the institutions of democratic rule; of capitalism; of the rule of law (the Constitution) etc. The following are some main descriptors of a federal government "gone bad":

- --economic policies that are job-killing/ economy-killing policies, as evidenced by massive unemployment and the continuing mortgage crisis
- --anti capitalist governance which is poised to levy penalizing taxes on banks which paid back government bail-out money
- --unprecedented government spending causing the deficit to quadruple in under a year
- --governmental push for health care "reform" and cap & trade, which, if passed, the former will inevitably lower the quality of care and access to care and will get gov't bureaucrats between doctors and patients; and the latter will significantly lower Americans' standard of living

Lauren Kaine 1435 SW Fairlawn Rd Apt 508 Topeka, KS 66604

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