

Approved: March 2, 2000

Date

## MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Senator David Corbin at 8:00 a.m. on February 22, 2000 in 245-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present:

Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department  
Mary Ann Torrence, Revisor of Statutes Office  
Lila McClafin, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Senator Umbarger  
Steve Williams, Secretary, Wildlife and Parks  
Teresa Laporte, Operational Manager, Lil' Toledo Lodge, Cainito, KS 66720  
Mike Beam, Kansas Livestock Assn.  
Bill Fuller, Kansas Farm Bureau

Others attending:

See attached list.

### **SB 568—Increase in number of nonresident deer permits authorized.**

Chairperson Corbin said Senator Umbarger and twenty-six other senators were the sponsors of **SB 568**. He called on Senator Umbarger.

Senator Umbarger said the bill would provide for an increase in the nonresident deer permits from 5% of the number of resident permits, to 10% of the number of resident permits for firearms and archery permits. This would provide for added economic and tourism benefits of nonresident hunters. It adds another step to Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks efforts to control the deer populations and the problems associated with the over population of deer. Finally it should satisfy the demand for nonresident permits based on the number of applications received in 1999 (Attachment 1).

Steve Williams, Secretary, Wildlife and Parks, supported the bill as a sound approach and said it adds to current efforts for effective deer management. He suggested several amendments that the department thought would further their efforts to reduce deer numbers and respond to public concern (Attachment 2). He responded to questions.

Teresa Laporte said to increase the out of state deer permits would be beneficial for the economy of Kansas. She thought that increasing permits to those who abide by our rules and regulations will not hurt the deer population in the state. Finally, she suggested that there are more poachers in the state taking deer illegally than by avid hunters that obey and respect the laws (Attachment 3).

Mike Beam, Kansas Livestock Association, said their members supported more nonresident hunting permits, because it broadens the field of hunters and that can help reduce the deer herd and enhances the opportunity for landowners to gain financially from nonresident deer hunters (Attachment 4).

## CONTINUATION SHEET

### MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

Bill Fuller, Kansas Farm Bureau, supported the bill, as their members believe there is a desperate need to bring the state's deer herd under control. He recommended the bill be amended to include a toll free number to Wildlife and Parks where their members could report crop damage and assist landowners in connecting with control programs (Attachment 5).

Written testimony supporting the bill was submitted from Senator Lana Oleen (Attachment 6).

The hearing on **SB 568** was closed.

The committee continued the review and discussion of the subcommittee report of **SB 388**. Senator Huelskamp said the Chief Engineer had attended their subcommittees. It was stressed that the Chief Engineer would need to approve the charter of any water bank, and that a charter would have to comply with current statutes and can not violate the current rules and regulations. A member of the committee stressed that water conservation was the important part of the bill and if the bill is adopted it may need to be adjusted in several years. A member suggested that it might be well to have a pilot water bank project. Senator Huelskamp said the subcommittee thought it was best not to limit the program to one section of the state.

The committee time expired. Chairperson announced the committee would meet at 7:45 on February 23, and continue discussion and possible action on **SB 388, SB 568 and SB 518**. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.