

## MINUTES OF THE SENATE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jay Emler at 10:30 a.m. on January 21, 2009, in Room 545-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:  
Senator Vratil - excused

Committee staff present:

J. G. Scott, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Michael Steiner, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Estelle Montgomery, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Reagan Cussimano, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Cody Gorges, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Aaron Klaassen, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Jim Wilson, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
Daniel Yoza, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
Melinda Gaul, Chief of Staff  
Shirley Jepson, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Dan Dymarkowski, Director of Labor Relations, Hawker/Beechcraft  
Jim Crone, Director of Structural Integrity, Cessna Aircraft  
Dr. John Tomblin, Executive Director, National Institute for Aviation Research (NIAR)  
Andy Schlapp, Wichita State University (WSU)

Others attending:

See attached list.

### **Presentation by Wichita Aviation Industry**

John Moore, former Lieutenant Governor of the State of Kansas, appeared before the Committee to introduce the presenters from the Wichita aviation industry. Mr. Moore noted the importance of the aviation industry to the state of Kansas and the critical issue of maintaining and providing a viable workforce for the industry.

Jim Crone, Director of Structural Integrity, Cessna Aircraft, presented an overview of the aviation industry as a major contributor to the economic vitality of Kansas (Attachment 1). Highlights from Mr. Crone's presentation include:

- There are 36,500 direct jobs in the aviation industry in Kansas. The National Institute for Aviation Research (NIAR), located at Wichita State University, is ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> among the nation's universities in the amount of aviation research performed.
- The investment in NIAR by the state has changed the aviation research capability within Kansas.
- Aviation research is a global business.
- Important to maintain a trained workforce.
- NIAR is requesting an appropriation of \$5m from the 2009 Legislature to continue research at NIAR.

Responding to questions from the Committee, Mr. Crone stated that in forecasting the future of the aviation industry, they look at demands for aircraft, study trends in the industry and have predicted that the downturn in the economy will slow in 2010 and gradually work upward after 2010. With regard to a federal stimulus package, Mr. Crone noted that the federal government puts a lot of emphasis on safety and for this reason, it is thought that there may be a stimulus package in the near future.

Dr. John Tomblin, Executive Director, NIAR, stated that the forecast for NIAR and the aviation industry in Wichita is strong at this time. Responding to a question from the Committee, Dr. Tomblin noted that China has no infrastructure to do aviation research.

Andy Schlapp, Wichita State University, indicated that approximately \$1.3 million in taxes are paid to the state by the aviation industry and their employees each year.

Dan Dymarkowski, Director of Labor Relations, Hawker/Beechcraft, presented an overview of the National

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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Center for Aviation Training (Attachment 2). Highlights of Mr. Dymarkowski's presentation included:

- There is global competition, as well as competition within the United States, from those performing aviation research.
- The industry will be in need of 20,000 workers within the next 10 years, as current employees retire and the need for additional employees increases.
- As the industry changes and new technologies are advanced, it is necessary to have a well-trained workforce.
- The industry is requesting a continued investment of \$5 million from the state for the National Center for Aviation Training in each of the next 4 years to be used for equipment and machinery; programs and curriculum.

Responding to a question from the Committee, Mr. Dymarkowski noted there are approximately 40,000 employees in the aviation industry within the state.

### **Continued Discussion on SB 23 - Supplemental, appropriations for FY2009 for various state agencies.**

Copies of information provided by Dale Dennis, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Education, were distributed to the Committee, in response to the Committee's request for the additional information on school finance showing the difference of an "across the board" reduction and the effect of a reduction in the Base State Aid Per Pupil (BSAPP) on individual school districts (Attachment 4).

### **Overview of State Surplus Property**

Cody Gorges, Legislative Research Department, provided an overview of the State Surplus Property Program (Attachment 5).

### **Continued Discussion on SB 30 - State surplus property; disposition of computers and firearms.**

Jim Wilson, Office of the Revisor of Statutes, provided and explained balloon amendments to SB 30 as requested by the Committee (Attachment 6).

The Committee expressed a concern with adding local public libraries to the bill and felt it might be appropriate to allow all non-profit entities to have the opportunity to purchase surplus computers. The Committee also proposed striking the "two" in Line 35 and reducing to "one".

Senator Taddiken moved to adopt the first two amendments to **SB 30** as presented. The motion was seconded by Senator Lee. Motion carried on a 5-3 vote.

Senator Schmidt moved to change the language in **SB 30** on Line 35 to remove "two" and insert "one" and adopt the remaining amendments as presented. The motion was seconded by Senator McGinn. Motion carried.

Senator Kelly moved to further amend **SB 30** by adding language regarding the sale of computers, stating if the director of the Department of Administration determines that the equipment cannot be sold to legislators and staff, it would be offered as surplus property as stated in current statute. The motion was seconded by Senator Wysong. Motion carried.

The Committee requested a copy of the bill with the additional amendments before taking final action.

### **Adjournment**

The next meeting is scheduled for January 22, 2009.

The meeting was adjourned at 12.00 p.m.