MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson David Adkins at 9:05 a.m. on January 18, 2000 in Room 514-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Rep. Allen - excused

Rep. Dean - excused Rep. Hermes - excused

Committee staff present: Alan Conroy, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Stuart Little, Kansas Legislative Research Department Robert Waller, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Jim Wilson, Revisor of Statutes

Mike Corrigan, Revisor of Statutes Office David Stallings, Assistant to the Chairman Mary Shaw, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Charles E. Simmons, Secretary, Kansas Department of Corrections Barbara Tombs, Executive Director, Kansas Sentencing Commission

Others attending: See attached list.

Chairman Adkins mentioned that the Committee will hear a briefing from Secretary Connie Hubbell, Department on Aging, getting an update on the department. Also there will be a hearing on **HB 2385**, and it is not the intention to focus on the substantiative provisions of **HB 2385**, but instead to use that bill as a vehicle for considering whether or not the Committee would like to recommend to the full House a bill that might include the concept of a regional primary as an alternative to the presidential preference primary in 2004 because it appears the presidential preference primary will be not be held this year.

Chairman Adkins turned the Committee's attention to inmate population and inmate capacity issues. The Chairman welcomed Charles Simmons, Secretary, Kansas Department of Corrections. Secretary Simmons explained a handout KDOC Status Report: Population and Capacity (Attachment 1) and noted that on December 31, 1999 inmate population was 8,569 which was a 39 percent increase in the last ten years. Secretary Simmons also noted that the post-release supervision population was 5,549 which is a 52 percent increase in the last ten years. He also mentioned that the female population at that time was 573 and in 1990 the female population was 293 so there is very significant growth in the number of female inmates in the custody of the Department of Corrections. Secretary Simmons called attention to Chart 17 in his testimony regarding the Governor's FY 2001 Capacity-Related Recommendations.

Secretary Simmons noted that there is a project identified at Ellsworth which is a medium security facility where they can add a new cell house capacity by 200 medium security inmates. They also have a similar project at Hutchinson Correctional Facility East Unit which would also raise the capacity by 200 medium security beds. So there are 400 beds existing facilities and the cost of each is about \$6.5 million dollars construction cost. Beyond that they felt they could add some minimum custody beds at existing facilities to the extent that they would need to do so. For additional maximum or medium custody facilities or capacity they feel he did not feel they have any viable options identified at existing facilities at this time so they would be looking for a potential for a new facility to add any additional medium or maximum custody beds beyond the two cell houses they have identified at El Dorado are in the budget, one additional at Ellsworth and one additional at Hutchinson East Unit.

Committee questions and discussion followed. Chairman Adkins thanked Secretary Simmons for appearing before the Committee.

A copy of the Prison Population Monthly Monitoring Report, FY 2000 Official Model was distributed (Attachment 2)

CONTINUATION SHEET

Chairman Adkins welcomed Barbara Tombs, Executive Director, Kansas Sentencing Commission. Ms. Tombs briefed the Committee regarding the impact of sentencing guidelines on prison population, FY 2000 prison population projections, increasing lengths of stay, prison admissions, crime rates and prison population levels (<u>Attachment 3</u>). Ms. Tombs called attention to and explained the grids found on the last pages of her testimony regarding sentencing range. She also explained the Kansas Sentencing Commission FY 2000 Official Adult Inmate Prison Population Projections found on Appendix A of her testimony.

Ms. Tombs also noted that there a lot of hard policy decisions to make as far as how many beds to build and who you want to put in them. She also hoped that the information provided from her and the Secretary of Corrections would be a guide in making those decisions because there are no quick fixes and there are some very dangerous long-term problems the state should not ignore.

Chairman Adkins thanked both Ms. Tombs and Secretary Simmons for appearing before the Committee. Questions and discussion followed.

Copies of a comparison sheet of various Senate and House positions regarding the budget bill that both Houses have passed and is the subject of a conference committee meeting at 1:30 p.m. this afternoon in Room 123-S (Attachment 4).

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for January 19, 2000.