

MINUTES OF THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Senator Vratil at 9:38 a.m. on February 12, 2002 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Senator Adkins (excused)

Committee staff present:

Gordon Self, Revisor
Mike Heim, Research
Mary Blair, Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Kathy Porter, Office of Judicial Administration (OJA)
Juliene Maska, Office of Attorney General (AG)
Sandy Barnett, Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence (KCSDV)
Sarah Jane Russell, Rape Victims Survival Program
Lela Smith, Clerk of District Court

Others attending: see attached list

The minutes of the February 11th, 2002 meeting were approved on a motion by Senator Schmidt, seconded by Senator Donovan. Carried.

SB 477—protection from abuse; re: funding for programs

Conferee Porter offered a technical administrative amendment to **SB 477**, a bill which would increase the civil court docket fee paid to the district courts by \$1 so that the amount would be \$102 rather than \$101 with the increase going to the Protection from Abuse Fund. OJA's amendment would conform the bill to OJA's accounting procedures.([attachment 1](#))

Conferee Maska testified in support of **SB 477**. She stated that the bill allows sexual assault programs to access state funds and it clarifies that the AG has authority to administer the fund. She discussed why it was necessary to add further amendments to the bill, increasing the civil court docket fee paid to the district courts by \$4 rather than \$1, making the civil court docket fee \$105.([attachment 2](#))

Conferee Barnett testified in support of **SB 477**. She discussed numerous statistics on rape and rape victims stating that sexual violence is a problem of "epidemic proportions in Kansas." She further discussed federal funding sources available for sexual violence programs and stated that current state funding is less than adequate.([attachment 3](#))

Conferee Russell testified in support of **SB 477**. She discussed services Douglas County provides to victims of sexual violence and cited national statistics related to sexual assault and/or abuse. She stated that the proposed funding would assist Douglas County to establish and fund a 24/7 live voice hotline and to expand and diversify volunteer coverage.([attachment 4](#))

Committee Member Senator Goodwin submitted written testimony in support of **SB 477**.([attachment 5](#))

SB 444—evictions; forms of summonses

Conferee Smith testified in support of **SB 444**, a bill which she stated amends current law to create compliance with summons forms and response time frames relating to limited civil actions in Kansas courts.([attachment 6](#))

Conferee Smith testified in support of **SB 444** and offered an amendment which he stated would permit the combining of notices for termination of rental agreement and intent to file suit for eviction.([attachment 7](#)) Following discussion there was general consensus that this amendment would be more appropriate in another bill. Following further discussion Senator Oleen moved to pass the bill out favorably and place it on the consent calendar, Senator O'Connor seconded. Carried.

SB 445—judgment liens

Conferee Wilson testified in support of **SB 445**, a bill which she explained clarifies procedures in current law

for elevating the status of a limited actions judgment to a lien against real estate.(attachment 8)

Written testimony supporting **SB 445** was submitted by Kansas Trial Lawyers Association.(attachment 9)

Final Action

SB 432—regulating traffic; restricting transportation of nonsibling minor passengers

The chair reviewed **SB 432** and Committee Member Senator Umbarger offered a balloon amendment to the bill which exempted persons going to or from such passenger's job, employment or farm-related work.(attachment 10) Also discussed was adding "church attendance or church activities". Following discussion Senator Umbarger moved to amend the bill by inserting the language as stated above, Senator Oleen seconded. Carried. Lengthy discussion followed. Senator Donovan moved to pass the bill out favorably as amended, Senator Umbarger seconded. Motion failed 4-5.

The meeting adjourned at 10:34. The next scheduled meeting is February 13, 2002.