

Approved: 3/1/07  
Date

## MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMERCE AND LABOR COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steve Brunk at 9:08 A.M. on February 19, 2007 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Candy Ruff- excused  
Delia Garcia- excused

Committee staff present:

Jerry Ann Donaldson, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Duston Slinkard, Office of Revisor of Statutes  
Stephen Bainum, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Others attending:

See attached list.

The Chairman reopened the hearing on **HB 2315 - Home Inspection Competency and financial responsibility.**

Martha Smith, Director for Kansas Housing Association testified as neutral and passed out a Proposed Amendment to **HB 2315 (Attachment 1).**

Chris Wilson, Executive Director of the Kansas Building Industry Association presented written testimony and a proposed amendment to **HB 2315 (Attachment 2).**

Larry Magill, representing the Kansas Association of Insurance Agents testified as neutral and proposed an amendment to **HB 2315 (Attachment 3).**

Ron Gaches, Executive Director, Kansas Society of Professional Engineers, testified as an opponent of **HB 2315 (Attachment 4).**

There being no questions for the conferees the Chairman closed the hearing on **HB 2315.**

The Chairman called for a motion to reconsider **HB 2314 - Board of accountancy approval of educational credit.**

Because there had been some confusion about the actions taken on the bill on Friday Representative Humerickhouse made a motion to reconsider. The motion was seconded by Representative Goico. The motion to reconsider passed on voice vote.

Duston reminded the committee of the changes that were approved by the committee and commented on the implications of the actions.

The Chairman said that the 150 hours is an industry standard across the country and changing it to 100 makes Kansas significantly different than the rest of the country. Also removing lines 39-40 defeats the original intent of this bill which was to allow the AP classes.

Representative Goico asked if you can get an accounting degree with 100 hours. It takes 124 hours for a basic accounting degree. The 26 extra hours are required to be able to set for the CPA exam. He made a motion to restore lines 39 and 40 and change the 100 hours back to 150 hours. Representative Kiegerl seconded the motion.

Representative Landwehr asked for the motion to be split. There was no objection. Representative Goico restated the motion to reinstate the 150 hours. Seconded by Keigerl.

The question was called and the motion passed on voice vote.

**Representative Goico made a motion to restore lines 39-40. Seconded by Huntington.**

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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Representative Pauls said there was a problem with the Board not accurately reporting year to year and she is opposed to the motion.

Representative Landwehr said if you reinstate the language you are giving the Board the ability to micro manage and she is opposed to the motion.

Representative Goico said the issue is colleges outside of Kansas. There is no problem with colleges in the State of Kansas. Other states do not have the same requirements as Kansas and restoring lines 39-40 allows the Board to limit the type and amount of credits that other states allow. Representative Goico said that a balloon was confusing and restoring lines 39-40 would solve the problem.

Representative Landwehr said again this would allow the Board to Micro manage.

Representative Huntington asked Susan Somers to respond to the statement about micro managing. She said the lines were needed to quantify the courses that are required to sit for the CPA exam. It is not to micro manage anyone. It is to collectively say what is required to sit for the CAP exam. The problem is that without lines 39-40 the out of state college may have to be disqualified because their AP credits are not up to our standard.

Representative Landwehr complained that they were not asked to agree to the reconsideration of the bill except for the 150 hours.

The Chairman said that once the bill is reopened, anything can be considered.

Representative Sharp commented about the different numbers of hours required by different states.

Tony Scott, Kansas Society of CPA's offered to clarify the question. He said that there were some states that did not require 150 hours. Colorado was one of those states. The difficulty with that is that the Colorado CPA's cannot cross state lines to practice. They must first get the 150 hours so that they can be considered "substantially equivalent". Substantial equivalency requires 150 hours. Tony said that when he spoke to the members of the committee about reconsideration his focus was on the 150 hours because that would have emasculated the CPA profession in the State of Kansas.

Representative Huntington asked if it was important to have a uniform act. Tony replied said that it was important to have a uniform ability to practice across state lines.

Representative Grant said that Kansas colleges are controlled by the Regents. Outside of Kansas they may accept more credits and we have no control over what they accept without lines 39-40.

Representative Pauls thought the committee was hearing misleading information and advised the committee to vote no.

Representative Landwehr said that it might be better to postpone the decision.

Representative Roth asked for the motion to be restated.

Representative Grant asked if there was an urgency to pass this bill. The urgency is that going back to last year we will not be able to accept Dante credits.

Representative Grange said that he agreed with the 150 hours but not restoring lines 39-40. Representative Kiegerl agreed with Representative Grange.

The question was called and the motion failed.

Representative Kiegerl made a motion to pass the bill favorably for passage as amended, seconded by Representative Grant. The motion passed on voice vote.

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The Chairman said that tomorrow the committee will be working **HB 2315**, the home inspector's bill and hearing **HB 2379** the employee misconduct bill. There may be an opportunity to hear **SB 0083**, the employment security bill.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 10:25 A.M.