

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE BUSINESS, COMMERCE AND LABOR COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Al Lane at 9:06 a.m. on January 25, 2000 in Room 521-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Rep. Mike O'Neal - excused
 Rep. Rick Rehorn - excused
 Rep. Gwen Welshimer - excused

Committee staff present: Bob Nugent, Revisor of Statutes
 Jerry Donaldson, Legislative Research Department
 Dennis Hodgins, Legislative Research Department
 Bev Adams, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Karla Pierce, Secretary, Department of Revenue

Others attending: See attached list

Minutes of January 13, 19 and 20 were handed out to the committee. They will be approved at a later date. This year the committee minutes will be put on the Internet as soon as they are approved so read them carefully.

Introduction of Bills:

No one was present to introduce a bill.

Presentation by Karla Pierce, Secretary, Department of Revenue on Electronic Filing of Sales Tax

Chairman Lane introduced Secretary Karla Pierce, Department of Revenue. She gave the committee an overview of all the different types of electronic tax filings available through the department. In January the Center for Digital Government recognized Kansas as Number 1, with a perfect score of 100, in E-Taxation. The state offers a variety of options for taxpayers to use to get services by electronic means. The changes came about after five years of development. They went across the state asking what Kansas citizens wanted from the Department of Revenue. They wanted simple forms and plain language. (See Attachment 1)

They used this information to build a number of applications that are electronic forms, although there will still be paper forms available. Different methods of filing are available by telephone, over the Internet with a PC, or using types of software that can be bought off the shelf. They feel they have gone a long way to satisfy the taxpayer who wants simple forms and plain language. In tax year 1998, there were 271,856 electronic tax filings of individual income tax, showing an increase in this type of filing of 28%. For this year there already is an increase of 34%.

In October, 1999, they implemented electronic filing for Sales Tax. It was simplified to list only gross sales. You can also pay over the telefile system by giving them a bank account number and they will make a withdrawal from your account. It has been very successful. At the time they implemented this system they named this as the preferred method to file your sales tax return if you are a monthly taxpayer. 58% of the eligible population used this method in November, 1999.

Secretary Pierce finished her presentation by answering questions from the committee.

Chairman Lane adjourned the meeting at 9:53 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 26, 2000.