

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMERCE, LABOR AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Mark Hutton at 1:30 pm on Tuesday, March 08, 2016, 346-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Marvin KleeB – Excused  
Representative Gene Suellentrop – Excused

Committee staff present:

Linda Herrick, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant  
Reed Holwegner, Legislative Research Department  
Chuck Reimer, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Lee McGrath, Managing Attorney, Institute of Justice  
Jon Sanders, Director of Regulatory Studies, John Locke Foundation  
Jenny Chinn, Director, Kansas State Historical Society  
John Milburn, Kansas Department of Administration

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

**Informational briefing: Occupational Licensing**

Lee McGrath, Managing Attorney, Institute of Justice, gave a presentation ([Attachment 1](#)) on Occupational Licensing in Kansas. This state offers more occupational freedom than most states and should put into place safeguards that would prevent expansion of licensure seen elsewhere.

Mr. McGrath recommends: 1) enact sunrise provisions for future licensing boards and job categories; 2) enact sunset provisions with periodic review for current licensing boards; and 3) reduce the number of licensing boards and licensed job categories.

Jon Sanders, Director of Regulatory Studies, John Locke Foundation also gave a presentation ([Attachment 2](#)) on Alternatives to Kansas' Occupational Laws.

**Informational Hearing on: State Efficiency Recommendation on Disposition of State Owned Surplus Properties**

Jenny Chinn, Executive Director, Kansas State Historical Society, provided comments ([Attachment 3](#)) on the State Efficiency Study Recommendations regarding disposition of state owned surplus properties. She noted the property listed in the study at 6425 SW 6th Avenue does not belong to the Kansas Department of Labor, but rather is the 81 acres currently occupied by the Kansas State Historical Society building and grounds. Part of the historic Oregon-California Trail runs through the

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property. This property should not be part of the surplus property listing.

Reed Holwegner, Legislative Research, explained this Alvarez and Marsal recommendation. The firm recommended 12,3000,000 square feet of building space and 179,000 acres of land could be sold for \$9 million in potential value. The respective state agency would keep 20% of the proceeds while 80% would be paid to KPERS. In 2017 and 2018, over \$7.4 million could be received from surplus property sales.

John Milburn, Kansas Department of Administration, provided information ([Attachment 4](#)) on the process for selling property deemed to be surplus.

### **Discussion and Committee Report on State Efficiency Study Recommendations**

Chairperson Hutton distributed a summary of the House Commerce Committee's comments ([Attachment 5](#)) on the Alvarez and Marsal study assigned recommendations, which included all recommendations except the surplus property discussed today. He asked Committee members for comments that will be forwarded to the House Appropriations Committee. The final report will be discussed again tomorrow at Committee meeting.

### **Action on HB2665 - City and county inspections of rental properties; limitations.**

Chairperson Hutton asked the Committee's desire on this bill.

*Representative Mason moved, seconded by Representative Claeys, the bill be passed.*

Discussion followed. Representative Carpenter said while the bill has some admirable parts, it seems it needs to be cleaned up with an amendment.

Chuck Reimer distributed and explained the amendment ([Attachment 6](#)) and answered questions.

*Representative Carpenter moved a substitute motion, seconded by Representative Mason, to amend the bill (Attachment 6). There were 5 ayes and 6 nays. The motion failed.*

There was some discussion about too much local government control. Others felt this helps the people (tenants) who need it. Often homes are within ten feet of each other and a problem with one house affects houses next door.

*The Committee voted on approval of the bill. There were 7 ayes and 6 nays. The bill passed with Representatives Tietze, Ruiz, and Frownfelter voting nay.*

### **Adjournment**

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The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

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