

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Jan Pauls at 9:00am on Thursday, February 18, 2016, 346-S of the Capitol.

All members were present

Committee staff present:

Dana Rooney, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant
Joanna Dolan, Legislative Research Department
Jason Long, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Kyle Hamilton, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Natalie Nelson, Legislative Research Department

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Speaker Pro Tem, Representative Peggy Mast, 76th District, Kansas House of Representatives
Kirk Sours, Rancher, Linwood, Kansas
Dr. Micah W. Kubic, Executive Director, American Civil Liberties Union of Kansas
Rabbi Moti Rieber, Executive Director, Kansas Interfaith Action

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

Chairman Pauls opened the meeting and welcomed everyone and apologized for the late start of 9:05 a.m. because there was another meeting in the room prior to the committee meeting.

Bill introductions

Chairman Pauls called for bill introductions from the committee and recognized Ranking Minority Member, Representative Annie Tietze.

Representative Tietze introduced a bill to allow workers compensation recipients to keep 50% of workers compensation if they are currently receiving social security.

There were no bills introduced from the audience.

Informational briefing:

Chairman Pauls introduced the committee to Tom Coburn, Former US Senator from Oklahoma, who briefed them on **HCR5010**.

Informational briefing:

Tom Coburn stated, "the Convention of States Joint Resolution is all about coming together under Article 5 of the Constitution which allows the states to make adjustments to the Constitution" . . .

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Federal and State Affairs at 9:00am on Thursday, February 18, 2016 in Room 346-S of the Capitol.

Mr. Coburn answered questions from Ranking Minority Member, Representative Annie Tietze; Representatives Valdenia Winn, Brett Hildabrand, Michael Houser, and Chairman Pauls.

Chairman Pauls thanked Mr. Coburn for coming today and speaking to the committee.

Informational briefing:

Mr. David Schneider with the Convention of States scheduled to speak today was unavailable because of other scheduling conflicts.

Hearing continuation on: HB2612 — Refugee resettlement; refugee absorptive capacity act.

Chairman Pauls opened the continuation hearing on **HB2612**. Chairman Pauls recognized Senior Revisor of Statutes, Jason Long, who gave an overview of the bill and the fiscal note. ([Attachment 1](#))

Questions were asked by Representatives Kristey Williams, John Bradford, and Dick Jones.

Chairman Pauls recognized Speaker Pro Tem, Representative Peggy Mast, 76th District, Kansas House of Representatives who is a proponent of **HB2612**. ([Attachment 2](#))

Questions and comments were asked/made by Representatives Don Hineman, John Bradford, Kristey Williams, Dick Jones, Valdenia Winn, Nancy Lusk, Stephanie Clayton and Ranking Minority Member, Representative Annie Tietze.

Another proponent, Kirk Sours, rancher, from Linwood, Kansas spoke in favor of this bill. There were no questions for this conferee. ([Attachment 3](#))

There was no written only testimony presented for **HB2612**.

Dr. Micah W. Kubic, Executive Director, American Civil Liberties Union of Kansas, opposed **HB2612**. ([Attachment 4](#))

Questions were asked by Representatives Joseph Scapa and Don Hineman.

Speaking also as an opponent to **HB2612** was Rabbi Moti Rieber, Executive Director, Kansas Interfaith Action. ([Attachment 5](#))

Due to the need to vacate the meeting room for the Senate Judiciary Committee, there was no opportunity for questions.

There was written only testimony in opposition to this bill from: Ken Williams, President & CEO, Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas. ([Attachment 6](#))

Unless specifically noted, the individual remarks recorded herein have not been transcribed verbatim. Individual remarks as reported herein have not been submitted to the individuals appearing before the committee for editing or corrections.

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Neutral: None

Neutral Written Only: Sandra Kimmons, Director, Economic & Employment Services, Kansas Department of Children and Families. ([Attachment 7](#))

The next meeting of the House Federal and State Affairs Committee will be on call of the chair.

The meeting adjourned at 10:27 a.m.

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