Approved: May 12, 2015

MINUTES OF THE SENATE ASSESSMENT AND TAXATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Les Donovan at 1:00pm on Wednesday, April 01, 2015, 548-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator Mike Petersen – Excused

Committee staff present:

Chris Courtwright, Legislative Research Department Edward Penner, Legislative Research Department Adam Siebers, Office of Revisor of Statutes Gordon Self, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Judy Seitz, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Arlen Siegfreid, Board of Tax Appeals

Others in attendance:

See Attached List

<u>Hearing on: HB2240 — Removing prohibition against board of tax appeals employees serving as hearing officers.</u>

Chair Donovan opened the hearing on HB2240.

Arlen Siegfreid appeared in support of <u>HB2240</u> noting that last year <u>House Substitute for SB231</u> was passed and signed into law. This bill contained a provision pertaining to the use of Board of Tax Appeals (BOTA) staff being used as small claims hearing officers. He said this provision prevented the Small Claims and Expedited Hearings Division from using the three staff attorneys in that position. He said that if the BOTA is allowed to use the staff attorneys the statutory requirement could be accomplished by hiring one more contractual officer. Mr. Siegfreid said that if they are not allowed to used them it would require the hiring and training of four more officers at a cost of \$115,000.00. (Attachment 1)

There were no opponents.

Senator Abrams made a motion to pass **HB2240** out favorably. The motion was seconded by Senator Lynn. Motion carried.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:18 pm.