

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMERCE COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Julia Lynn at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, February 23, 2015, 548-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator Oletha Faust-Goudeau – Excused
Senator Robert Olson – Excused
Senator Susan Wagle – Excused
Senator Tom Holland – Excused

Committee staff present:

Reed Holwegner, Legislative Research Department
Debbie Bartuccio, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant
Edward Penner, Legislative Research Department
Chuck Reimer, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Eric Stafford, Kansas Chamber
Jeff Oswald, Unemployment Insurance Group
Phil Hayes, Arnold Group
Justin McFarland, Deputy General Counsel, Kansas Department of Labor

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

Hearing continuation on: SB154 — Amending unemployment insurance benefits determination; employer classification and contribution rates.

Chairperson Lynn continued the hearing on **SB 154**. She recognized the following conferees.

Eric Stafford, Kansas Chamber, reviewed updated charts concerning Kansas Unemployment Insurance Reform Bill Summary Information. ([Attachment 1](#)) Mr. Stafford also included a proposed amendment. ([Attachment 2](#)) In addition to Mr. Stafford, Phil Hayes, Arnold Group, and Jeff Oswald, Unemployment Insurance Services, reviewed some of the data on the proposed charts.

Justin McFarland, Kansas Department of Labor, provided comments concerning the proposed revisions to **SB 154** as outlined by Mr. Stafford. He commended Mr. Stafford for taking into consideration the concerns of the Kansas Department of Labor. Mr. McFarland expressed a preference for the top rate group to be at 22%. No written testimony was provided.

Following the conclusion of the question and answer session, Chairperson Lynn closed the hearing on **SB 154**. She stated the Committee would be deliberating the bill at the next meeting.

Possible action on bills previously heard

There was no action on bills previously heard.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Commerce at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, February 23, 2015, 548-S of the Capitol.

Chairperson Lynn adjourned the meeting at 9:05 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for February 24, 2015.