Approved: February 25, 2015

MINUTES OF THE SENATE ETHICS AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Mitch Holmes at 9:35am on Wednesday, January 21, 2015, 159-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator Kay Wolf - Excused

Committee staff present:

Jill Shelley, Legislative Research Department

Martha Dorsey, Legislative Research Department

Daniel Yoza, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Mike Heim, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Donola Fairbanks, substitute Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Carol Williams, Executive Director of the Kansas Governmental Ethics Commission

Others in attendance:

See Attached List

Chairman Holmes opened the meeting for bill introductions.

Carol Williams, Executive Director of the Kansas Governmental Ethics Commission proposed the introduction of a bill that would amend existing law to raise the dollar amount of fees that candidates for state and local office, political action committees and lobbyists pay into the Governmental Ethics Commission's Fee Fund. With out objections, the bill was introduced.

<u>Hearing on: SB27 — Campaign finance; use of campaign funds; increased exemption amount certain for candidates; contributor information; lobbyist filings.</u>

Carol Williams, Executive Director of the Kansas Governmental Ethics Commission appeared before the committee as a proponent of <u>SB27</u>. (Attachment 1) She summarized sections of the bill. Executive Director Williams addressed questions from the committee.

Hearing closed on **SB27**.

Hearing on: SB28 — Lobbyist defined.

Carol Williams, Executive Director of the Kansas Governmental Ethics Commission, appeared before the committee as a proponent of **SB28**. (Attachment 2) The commission is recommending the legislature raise the dollar threshold which requires an individual to register as a lobbyist who makes reportable lobbying expenditures from \$100 to \$500. Executive Director Carol Williams addressed questions from the committee.

Hearing closed on **SB28**.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Ethics and Elections at 9:35am on Wednesday, January 21, 2015, 159-S of the Capitol.

The next meeting will be a joint meeting with the House Elections Committee on January 22, 2015 at 12:00 Noon in Room 546-S.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 am.