

MINUTES OF THE SENATE ETHICS AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Mitch Holmes at 9:35am on Wednesday, February 25, 2015, 142-S of the Capitol.

All members were present

Committee staff present:

Jill Shelley, Legislative Research Department
Martha Dorsey, Legislative Research Department
Darla Conner, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant
Daniel Yoza, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Mike Heim, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Bryan Caskey, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Elections & Legislative Matters

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

Chairman Holmes opened the meeting for discussion on **SB10-Cities; filling vacancies in governing body**. Senator Haley wished to defer the discussion and working of the bill until all members of the committee were present.

Hearing and possible action on: SB239 — Elections; presidential preference primary date delayed.

Chairman Holmes proceeded with the meeting by opening the hearing on **SB239**. Daniel Yoza, Office of Revisor of Statutes, gave an overview of **SB239** and stood for questions.

Bryan Caskey, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Elections & Legislative Matters appeared before the committee as a proponent on **SB239**. ([Attachment 1](#)) He said this bill was primarily a cost saving measure to cancel the 2016 presidential preference primary but maintain the laws that call for a primary in future presidential election years. Questions by the committee were addressed by Deputy Assistant Secretary Caskey.

There being no other conferees, the hearing on **SB239** was closed.

Possible action on bills previously heard

Chairman Holmes opened discussion on **SB10 - Cities; filling vacancies in governing body**. Senator Haley acknowledged the committee's concerns about the expense of a special election as called for in **SB10**.

*Senator Haley made a motion to amend **SB10** with an amendment that would strike language beginning with the word "governing" in line 22 of new Section 1 and continuing thru the end of line 28.*

CONTINUATION SHEET

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then insert the words "chief law enforcement officer of such municipality shall appoint a person to fill such vacancy". Seconded by Senator Fitzgerald. ([Attachment 2](#)) Discussion on the motion.

Senator Wolfe moved a substitute conceptual motion to **SB10** requiring any municipalities as defined by this act to have a procedure for filling vacancies in its governing body within 60 days other wise this act would apply. Seconded by Senator Fitzgerald. The motion carried.

Senator Wolf made a motion to advance **SB10** as amended. Seconded by Senator Fitzgerald. The bill was passed as amended.

Senator Love introduced his pages; Kaden Harms and Nathan Hishmeh from Washburn Rural Middle School. Senator O'Donnell introduced his pages; Karen Angel, Nadia Perez, Gema Soto, and Kobe Marth from Marshall Middle School.

Senator Wagle requested the Secretary of States Office to explore the possibility of other states that want to partner with Kansas for the 2016 presidential preference primary.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 5, 2015.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:18 am.