

MINUTES OF THE SENATE ETHICS AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Mitch Holmes at 9:35am on Thursday, January 21, 2016, 142-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:
Senator Susan Wagle – Excused

Committee staff present:
Mike Heim, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Jill Shelley, Legislative Research Department
Darla Conner, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant
Chuck Reimer, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Conferees appearing before the Committee:
No conferees present

Others in attendance:
[See Attached List](#)

Possible bill introductions

Chairman Holmes opened the meeting with the introduction of Revisor Chuck Reimer, who replaced Daniel Yoza. He called for bill introductions. Seeing none, he apprised the committee of copies of the Committee Rules ([Attachment 1](#)) and Guidelines for Conferees. ([Attachment 2](#))

Presentation by:

Chairman Holmes introduced Secretary of State, Chris Kobach. His presentation included three topics.

Topic 1) The prosecutorial authority for persons who commit voter fraud. Since passage of law relating to certain election crimes took effect on July 1, 2015, six cases of voter fraud are being prosecuted. Prosecution begins with the matching of signatures in both jurisdictions. Owning property in different jurisdictions does not allow someone to have double votes. In this country it is one person - one vote.

Topic 2) Secretary Kobach requested that a bill be introduced to place restrictions on the use of public money that promotes the nomination, election, or defeat of a candidate for office or the passage or defeat of any question submitted for an election except the notifications that are required by law. The bill would also include a section stating that the use of monies from a bond election can only be for the purpose that was stated in published notice for such bond. Without objection, the bill was introduced.

Topic 3) Interstate Crosscheck or "The Kansas Project" is a nationwide program started in Kansas. ([Attachment 3](#)) The project compares voter rolls from one state to those of another participating state. Interstate Crosscheck is to ensure accurate and current voter registration rolls are maintained. Thirty states are currently participating in the program as of January 21, 2016.

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.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Ethics and Elections at 9:35am on Thursday, January 21, 2016 in Room 142-S of the Capitol.

Secretary Kobach stood for questions. Discussion followed.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 27, 2016. The meeting was adjourned at 10:28 am.

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