

MINUTES OF THE SENATE ETHICS AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Mitch Holmes at 9:30am on Wednesday, March 09, 2016, 142-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:
Senator Steve Fitzgerald – Excused

Committee staff present:
Jill Shelley, Legislative Research Department
Martha Dorsey, Legislative Research Department
Chuck Reimer, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Marty Rosa, Substitute Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the Committee:
Representative Keith Esau,
John Anderson, Prairie Village
Mike Jones, Overland Park,

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

Hearing on: HB2558 — Regulation of election campaign workers.

Chairman Holmes opened the hearing on **HB2558**. Staff gave an overview of the bill and stood for questions.

Proponents:
Representative Keith Esau testified in support of **HB2558**. [\(Attachment 1\)](#) Representative Esau brought this bill before the house to make clear that local ordinances relating to solicitation do apply to political campaign activity. He stood for questions.

John Anderson, Prairie Village, Kansas, appeared before the committee in support of **HB2558**. [\(Attachment 2\)](#) Mr. Anderson stated that the idea of restricting an individual seeking an elected office the opportunity to share his or her thoughts and feelings was unfathomable. A local government should not have the authority to override the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

Mike Jones, Overland Park, Kansas, testified in support of **HB2558**. [\(Attachment 3\)](#) Mr. Jones said the First Amendment clearly prohibits the making of any laws that abridge the freedom of speech. A Yale University study determined that personal contact at the door from campaigns was the most effective at increasing voter turnout.

Greg Smith, Senator from the 21st District, submitted written testimony in support of **HB2258**. [\(Attachment 4\)](#)

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Ethics and Elections at 9:30am on Wednesday, March 09, 2016 in Room 142-S of the Capitol.

Cindy Green, Deputy Director of the League of Kansas Municipalities, submitted written testimony in a neutral position on **HB2258**.[\(Attachment 5\)](#)

Chairman Holmes closed the hearing on **HB2558**.

Chairman Holmes requested Martha Dorsey, Kansas Legislative Research Staff, give a review of the Interim Committee Recommendations on the Contribution Limits of Campaign Finance and the Transferability of Campaign Fund Balances.[\(Attachment 6\)](#) She provided the Committee a copy of testimony by Carol Williams, Governmental Ethics Commission, showing campaign finance issues-contribution limits since the Governmental Ethics Commission was established.[\(Attachment 7\)](#) She also provided the committee a copy of the memorandum on Campaign Finance - Transferability by Edward Penner, Research Analyst.[\(Attachment 8\)](#) Discussion followed.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 10, 2016. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am.