

MINUTES OF THE SENATE FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Ralph Ostmeyer at 10:30 am on Tuesday, February 17, 2015, 144-S of the Capitol.

All members were present

Committee staff present:

Heather O'Hara, Legislative Research Department
Connie Burns, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant
Joanna Wochner, Legislative Research Department
Matt Sterling, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Mike Heim, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Pat Vogelsberg, Kansas County and District Attorney's
Senator Pat Pettey
Jack Granath, Bonner Springs City Library
Brenda Granger, Douglass, Kansas

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

Introduction of Bills

Senator Longbine requested a bill introduction concerning the banking code; relating to the state bank commissioner.

Senator Longbine moved that this request should be introduced as a committee bill. Senator Olson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Senator Holmes requested a bill introduction concerning a presidential preference primary.

Senator Holmes moved that this request should be introduced as a committee bill. Senator Wolf seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Patrick Vogelsberg, Kansas County and District Attorneys Association, requested a bill introduction concerning crimes and punishment; relating to unlawful abuse of toxic vapors.

Senator LaTurner moved that this request should be introduced as a committee bill. Senator Wilborn seconded the motion. The motion carried.

SB 153 Exempting public libraries from certain provisions of the personal and family protection act.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Federal and State Affairs at 10:30 am on Tuesday, February 17, 2015, 144-S of the Capitol.

Chairman Ostmeier opened the hearing on **SB 153**.

Staff provided an overview of the bill.

Senator Pat Pettey appeared before the committee as a proponent on the bill. ([Attachment 1](#)) The bill removes any state or municipal building operated as a public library from the requirement of providing adequate security measures at the public access entrances.

Jack Granath, Director, Bonner Springs City Library, testified in favor of the bill. ([Attachment 2](#)) The bill would allow public libraries to continue operating on the principles that have long guided local decision makers library boards and city councils in their effort to create safe places for the children in the community. Mr. Granath stated that his experiences have been in a large and a small town setting, and both of the public libraries where he worked took the same institutional position on guns, construing the library as a gun-free zone.

Written testimony was provided in support of the bill by:

Carol Levers, Director of Libraries, Kansas City Kansas Public Libraries. ([Attachment 3](#))

Gina Millsap, Chief Executive Officer, Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library. ([Attachment 4](#))

Melissa Wangemann, General Counsel, Kansas Association of Counties. ([Attachment 5](#))

Eric B. Smith, Legal Counsel, League of Kansas Municipalities. ([Attachment 6](#))

Brenda Granger, Douglass, Kansas, appeared in opposition on the bill. ([Attachment 7](#)) Ms. Granger stated that she has been carrying concealed into un-posted libraries whenever she goes to get books for quite some time.

Written testimony was provided in opposition to the bill:

Patricia Stoneking, President, Kansas State Rifle Association. ([Attachment 8](#))

Senator Forrest Knox ([Attachment 9](#))

Paul Larsen, NE, KS and UT CCW Instructor, Olathe, Kansas. ([Attachment 10](#))

Informational/Neutral

Jo Budler, State Librarian, provided an informational piece on public libraries and their role as institutions of education. ([Attachment 11](#))

CONTINUATION SHEET

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Galen Worthington, Director, Overbrook Public Library, provided written neutral testimony on the bill. [\(Attachment 12\)](#) Mr. Worthington wrote that the possibility of more weapons being carried into a library increases the chance of accidents while not correspondingly decreasing the chance of criminal activity.

Chairman Ostmeyer closed the hearing on **SB 153**.

The next meeting is scheduled February 18, 2015. The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.