

MINUTES OF THE SENATE FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Ralph Ostmeier at 10:30 am on Thursday, January 21, 2016, 144-S of the Capitol.

All members were present

Committee staff present:

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

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

John Milburn, Kansas Department of Administration
Gregg Burden, Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs Office
Philip Bradley, Kansas Craft Brewers Guild
Debbi Beavers, Kansas Alcoholic Beverage Control

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

Introduction of Bills

Senator Faust-Goudeau requested a bill introduction concerning crimes, punishment and criminal procedure; dealing with criminal use of weapons, relating to possession of firearms.

There being no objection from any member present, the Chairman declared a motion to introduce the bill adopted by consensus.

Senator LaTurner requested a bill introduction relating to motor vehicles, exemption of military personnel vehicles.

There being no objection from any member present, the Chairman declared a motion to introduce the bill adopted by consensus.

Senator Holland requested a bill introduction concerning legislators; dealing with per calendar compensation.

There being no objection from any member present, the Chairman declared a motion to introduce the bill adopted by consensus.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Federal and State Affairs at 10:30 am on Thursday, January 21, 2016 in Room 144-S of the Capitol.

SB 242 - Adding employees of the Kansas commission on veterans affairs office to the list of safety sensitive positions for preemployment drug screening.

Chairman Ostmeyer opened the hearing on **SB 242**.

Staff provided an overview of the bill.

John Milburn, Director of Legislative and Public Affairs, Kansas Department of Administration, spoke in favor of the bill. ([Attachment 1](#)) The bill would add the employees of the Kansas Commission on Veterans Affairs to the list of agencies and personnel that would be subject to pre-employment screening.

Gregg Burden, Director, Kansas Commission on Veterans; Affairs Office, (KCVAO) appeared in favor of the bill. ([Attachment 2](#)) The bill would add the employees of the Kansas Commission on Veterans Affairs to the list of agencies and personnel that would be subject to pre-employment screening. By instituting a drug screening program; it would prevent and/or discourage illegal drug usage in the workforce while also improving the workplace environment with lower absenteeism, improved productivity and lower employee turnover; which ultimately results in an improvement of the services and safety of KCVAO residents.

Chairman Ostmeyer closed the hearing on **SB 242**.

SB 326 - Increasing production limits for microbreweries.

Chairman Ostmeyer opened the hearing on **SB 326**.

Philip Bradley, Kansas Craft Brewers Guild of Kansas, appeared before the committee as a proponent on the bill. ([Attachment 3](#)) Under current law, a microbrewery is limited to manufacturing 100 to 30,000 barrels of domestic beer in a license year. This legislation would increase the maximum amount to 60,000 barrels of domestic beer in a license year; and addresses one significant issue, the ability to grow and will only enhance the business climate of Kansas.

Jeff Gill, Founder and CEO, Tallgrass Brewing Company, provided written testimony in favor of the bill. ([Attachment 4](#)) Mr. Gill stated in his testimony that they need this law change to remain strong and competitive with breweries in other states and continue their pattern of revenue growth and job creation in Kansas.

Debbi Beavers, Interim Director of Kansas Alcoholic Beverage Control, (ABC) appeared neutral on the bill. ([Attachment 5](#)) ABC respectfully requests that no further increase over 60,000 barrels (1,860,000 gallons) would be allowed. The concern is that, as the limit for microbreweries continues to increase,

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.

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applicants are increasingly discouraged from obtaining a manufacturers license, even though it is more appropriate in high volume situations.

Chairman Ostmeyer closed the hearing on **SB 326**.

The next meeting is scheduled January 26, 2016. The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.