

MINUTES OF THE SENATE FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Ralph Ostmeyer at 10:30 am on Thursday, March 17, 2016, 144-S of the Capitol.

All members were present

Committee staff present:

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

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Harold Schorn, Jr, Newton, Kansas  
James Washington, Basehor, Kansas  
Representative John Whitmer  
Kathy Sachs, Office of the Secretary of State  
James Miller, Legislative Office of Information Services

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

**Confirmation Hearing**

Chairman Ostmeyer opened the Confirmation Hearings.

Chairman Ostmeyer stated the committee was conducting three hearings for confirmation: Harold Schorn, Jr, Member, Human Rights Commission, James Washington, Member, Kansas Lottery Commission, re-appointment, and Melvin Neufeld, Member, Human Rights Commission, re-appointment.

Chairman Ostmeyer stated the first confirmation hearing on the Governors nominee for appointment was Harold Schorn, Jr, member, Human Rights Commission. The term is a four year term ending January 15, 2018. The Chairman noted that the confirmation packet had been delivered to each committee member for their review and consideration on the confirmation hearing.

The Chairman welcomed Harold Schorn, Jr. to the podium for comments. ([Attachment 1](#)) Mr. Schorn provided a brief update on his education and work history and shared a story about his parents. The Chairman called for questions regarding the confirmation.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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The Chairman called for a motion on the confirmation.

Senator LaTurner made a motion to move to the full Senate the confirmation for appointment Harold Schorn, Jr., member, Human Rights Commission, which expires January 15, 2018. Senator Olson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Chairman Ostmeyer stated the second confirmation hearing on the Governors nominee for re-appointment was James Washington, member, Kansas Lottery Commission. The term is a four year term ending March 15, 2020. The Chairman noted that the confirmation packet had been delivered to each committee member for their review and consideration on the confirmation hearing.

The Chairman welcomed James Washington to the podium for comments. ([Attachment 2](#)) Mr. Washington addressed the committee on serving on the Kansas Lottery Commission and would like to be reappointed. The Chairman called for questions regarding the confirmation.

The Chairman called for a motion on the confirmation.

Senator Holland made a motion to move to the full Senate the confirmation for re-appointment James Washington, Member, Kansas Lottery Commission, which expires March 15, 2020. Senator Wilborn seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Chairman Ostmeyer stated the committee was conducting a hearing on the Governors nominee for re-appointment for Melvin Neufeld, member, Kansas Human Rights Commission. The term is a four year term ending January 15, 2020. The Chairman noted that the confirmation packet had been delivered to each committee member for their review and consideration on the confirmation hearing. ([Attachment 3](#)) The Chairman called the committees attention to the information on Mr. Neufeld.

The Chairman called for a motion on the confirmation.  
Senator Olson made a motion to move to the full Senate the confirmation for re-appointment Melvin Neufeld, Member, Kansas Human Rights Commission, which expires January 15, 2020. Senator Holmes seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### **HB 2573 Live streaming of legislative meetings and the information network of Kansas**

Chairman Ostmeyer opened the hearing on **HB 2573**.

Staff provided an overview of the bill.

Representative John Whitmer appeared before the committee as a proponent on the bill. ([Attachment 4](#)) The bill uses already established state resources within the information Network of Kansas (INK) to wire committee rooms to stream audio to the Internet; and will add the livestreaming of certain

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legislative proceedings to the responsibility of INK.

Kathy Sachs, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, spoke in favor of the bill. ([Attachment 5](#)) The bill would require the Director of Legislative Administrative Services to administer and supervise the live streaming of legislative proceedings in cooperation with the Information Network of Kansas.

Written testimony was provided in support of the bill by:

Representative Blake Carpenter. ([Attachment 6](#))

Ashley All on behalf of the Open Kansas Initiative ([Attachment 7](#))

Rodger Woods, Americans for Prosperity ([Attachment 8](#))

Doug Anstaett, Executive Director of the Kansas Press Association. ([Attachment 9](#))

Kent Cornish, President of the Kansas Association of Broadcasters. ([Attachment 10](#))

Jim Miller, Chief Information Technology Officer, Legislative Office of Information, provided an informational briefing on the bill. ([Attachment 11](#)) Mr. Miller stated what is included in the Streaming Project:

- Inter-accessible audio streaming of meetings in thirteen Committee rooms
- Utilize existing audio systems in the thirteen Committee rooms
- Monitoring, measuring, and reporting on usage of real time streaming and archived content
- Audio streaming as is from the existing Committee room audio systems
- Kill switch
- Accessible archiving of audio files
- Simple/basic integration with KLISS and the Committee System module

What is not included in the Streaming Project

- Transcription of audio files or closed captioning of live audio stream (Cost impact = extremely high)
- Real time or archived tagging/indexing of content (Cost impact = high)

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- Full integration with KLISS (Cost impact = moderate to high)

Mr. Miller addressed questions and concerns from Committee members.

Chairman Ostmeyer closed the hearing on **HB 2573**.

### **Discussion and Final Action:**

#### **HB 2573 Live streaming of legislative meetings and the information network of Kansas**

*Senator Olson moved to pass **HB 2573** out favorably. Senator Holland seconded the motion. The motion carried.*

#### **HB 2549 - Requests for law enforcement assistance from foreign jurisdictions**

*Senator Holland moved to pass **HB 2549** out favorably. Senator Olson seconded the motion. The motion carried.*

#### **SCR 1603 - Making application to the U.S. congress to call a convention of the states**

The Chairman asked for any discussion or interest on **SCR 1603**. The Committee discussed and took no action on **SCR 1603**.

The next meeting is scheduled March 22, 2016. The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.