

MINUTES OF THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Jeff King at 10:45am on Tuesday, February 09, 2016, 346-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator Terry Bruce – Excused

Senator Garrett Love – Excused

Senator Carolyn McGinn – Excused

Committee staff present:

Robert Gallimore, Legislative Research Department

Jason Thompson, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Natalie Scott, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Lauren Douglass, Legislative Research Department

Natalie Nelson, Legislative Research Department

Suzanne Nelson, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Senator Jeff King, 15th District, Labette, Montgomery, and Neosho Counties, Kansas;

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

**Hearing on: SB395 — Limiting length of legislative session to 100 calendar days in odd-numbered years and 60 calendar days in even-numbered years; adjusting legislators' compensation.**

Chair King called the meeting to order and briefly explained the agenda for today. He opened the hearing on **SB395**.

Jason Thompson gave an overview of **SB395**, a bill proposed by Senator King, dealing with the length of legislative sessions and legislators' compensation. Jason stood for questions; there were none.

Vice Chair Smith called for the first and only proponent, Senator Jeff King.

Senator King presented testimony in favor of the bill. He explained that the bill would limit legislative sessions to 100 days in odd years and 60 days in even years. He noted that this approach would cut the legislative calendar by 20 days, from 180 days every two years to 160 days, while allowing the legislature more time to craft and debate the budget. He called the committee's attention to the Legislative Research Department Memorandum regarding biennial budget states in his written testimony.

Senator King related that **SB395** would set legislators' salaries per session at \$8800 odd years/\$5400

## CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Judiciary at 10:45am on Tuesday, February 09, 2016 in Room 346-S of the Capitol.

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even years, instead of by the day. This calculation is not a raise, but rather, matches almost exactly the salary for a normal length session. The Senator posed it promotes efficiency because legislators would earn the same salary whether early, on-time, or even if delayed in completing their work. ([Attachment 1](#))

Senator King answered questions from Senators Pettey, Lynn, and Pilcher-Cook.

There being no further questions, and no other oral or written proponent, opponent, or neutral testimony, the Chair closed the hearing on **SB395**.

The Chair announced that **SB395** would be worked next week.

### **Possible action on bills previously heard**

Chair King turned the committee's attention to action on **SB361**. Jason Thompson presented a reminder of the bill's provisions and stood for questions; there were none.

The Chair explained Senator Baumgardner and some other interested parties worked together to agree on a proposed balloon amendment which would clarify some of the definitions and would also meet the "pursuant to" test of the Attorney General. Jason Thompson distributed the amendment to the committee and audience, then explained the changes. ([Attachment 2](#))

*Chair King moved to amend **SB361** by adopting the balloon amendment; seconded by Senator Lynn; the motion passed.*

*Senator Lynn moved, seconded by Senator Petersen, that **SB361**, as amended, be recommended favorably for passage; the motion carried.*

There being no other business for today, the meeting adjourned at 11:15 am. The next meeting will be Wednesday, February 10, 2016.