

MINUTES OF THE SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON KPERS

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Jeff King at 3:40pm on Monday, February 16, 2015, 118-N of the Capitol.

All members were present

Committee staff present:

Reed Holwegner, Legislative Research Department
Suzanne Nelson, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant
Daniel Yoza, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Gordon Self, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Mark Dapp, Legislative Research Department

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

No conferees present

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

Hearing on: SB228--Defining police for purposes of eligibility in the Kansas police and firemen's retirement system.

Chair King opened the hearing on **SB228** and asked Daniel Yoza to give an overview of the bill, which amends the definition of "police," "policeman," or "policemen" in the current statute. Alan Conroy also distributed and reviewed an informational summary for SB228. ([Attachment 1](#)) There being no questions or comments at this time, the Chair called for proponent testimony.

County Counselor David Van Parys and Sheriff Andrew Dedeke from Leavenworth County, Kansas addressed the Committee on behalf of law enforcement in their county in support of **SB228**. They appeared together today to bring attention to the issues that have arisen in their county, but are applicable to every county in Kansas. Mr. Van Parys and Sheriff Dedeke indicated that deputies who perform duties related to the operation of the county jail and have completed training at the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center do not fall within the definition of "policeman" and therefore are not covered by KP&F, but rather under KPERS. The matter is currently the subject of an administrative appeal, but they support amending the statute, which would clarify the definition, as well as the intent of the statute. ([Attachment 2](#))

Sheriff Frank Denning also spoke in support of **SB228**. Like Leavenworth County, the Johnson County Sheriff's office has experienced a denial by KPERS for a Deputy working in the Adult Detention Center. ([Attachment 3](#))

Attorney, Clint Patty, spoke on behalf of Leavenworth County supporting favorable passage of **SB228**. He related that the amendment will allow all deputies statewide the same KP&F eligibility regardless of their job assignment and will also clarify an existing problem and prevent future unintended

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consequences under the current interpretation of K.S.A. 74-4952. ([Attachment 4](#))

There was no other proponent, neutral or opponent testimony submitted. Discussion followed and the members' questions were addressed by the four proponent conferees, Chair King, and Alan Conroy.

Seeing no further questions, Chair King closed the hearing on **SB228**. He announced that the bill would be worked next week.

Possible action on bills previously heard

The Chair turned the Committee's attention to action on **SB168**. He welcomed discussion, comments, amendments or any action the Committee wanted to take. There were no comments at this time.

Subsequently, the Chair explained an amendment regarding the \$1.0 billion bonding proposal which would fix the employer contribution rate for the next three years at 10.91% in FY16, 10.81% in FY17, and 10.48% in FY18, and extend amortization for another ten years, plus some other provisions. Chair King moved his amendment, seconded by Senator Denning. Discussion followed the King motion. Alan Conroy distributed a spreadsheet for illustration purposes, showing the projected effects of the amortization schedule. ([Attachment 5](#)) Returning to the King amendment, the Chair asked for further comments or discussion. Seeing none, Chair King called for a voice vote. The motion on the King amendment carried.

Senator Denning moved, seconded by Senator Longbine that **SB168** as amended be recommended favorable for passage. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm. The next meeting will be Tuesday, 2/24/2015.