

MINUTES OF THE SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Larry Powell at 8:30 am on Wednesday, February 11, 2015, 159-S of the Capitol.

All members were present

Committee staff present:

Heather O'Hara, Legislative Research Department
Toni Beck, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant
Tamera Lawrence, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Robin Jennison, Department of Wildlife Parks and Tourism
Leo Henning, KS Department of Health and Environment
John Donley, KS Farm Bureau
Bill Bider, Department of Health and Environment
Ryan Hoffman, KS Corporation Commission
Patrick Vogelsberg, National Waste and Recycling Association

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

Hearing on: SB120 — Exception to the limitations of wildlife, parks and tourism authority to purchase land.

Chairman Powell opened the hearing on the bill.

Tamera Lawrence provided an overview.

Robin Jennison provided testimony in favor of the bill commenting it is the responsibility of the department to provide public access to hunting and tourism areas in the state. ([Attachment 1](#))

Leo Henning provided testimony in support of the bill commenting the restoration plan for many of the settlements is acquisition of land for preservation of native prairie or habitat improvement for the wildlife. ([Attachment 2](#))

John Donley presented testimony in opposition to the bill stating Kansas Farm Bureau encourages the Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism to explore the option of leasing land rather than purchasing land.

([Attachment 3](#))

Discussion:

The possibility was discussed if the bill could be restricted to the counties affected; Cherokee, Crawford, Labette and Neosho. Three appraisals are reviewed prior to purchase of land by the Wildlife, Park and Tourism to be sure of competitive pricing. Concerns were expressed over a land purchase

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being fair market price.

Chairman Powell closed the hearing on the bill.

Hearing on: SB124 — Eliminating the sunset on landspreading of oil and gas drilling waste.

Chairman Powell opened the hearing on the bill.

Tamera Lawrence presented an overview.

Bill Bider testified as a proponent of the bill stating Department of Health and Environment is requesting the sunset provision be removed from the law to allow this method of drilling waste disposal to continue if selected by a drilling company. ([Attachment 4](#))

Ryan Hoffman testified in favor of the bill commenting past spread samplings of the water indicate that loading rates were well below the maximum allowable loading limit of 900 ppm Chloride over the past two years. ([Attachment 5](#))

Patrick Vogelsberg testified in opposition of the bill stating Subtitle D landfills have the necessary safeguards in place to handle these wastes and is the appropriate location for disposal. ([Attachment 6](#))

Discussion:

The original guidelines have proven to be on target with the regulations. A possibility was discussed to amend the bill to include any land concern issues addressing selling disclosure. There are 15 landfills at this time with Subtitle D regulations in the state of Kansas.

Chairman Powell closed the hearing on the bill.

Possible action on previously heard bills, **SB64** and **SB97** will be Thursday, February 12, 2015.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 am.