

MINUTES OF MEETING  
STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
March 13, 1961

The meeting was called to order and Mr. Gastl was introduced to discuss H.B. 376. He stated that this is strictly local legislation and seeks to permit the levy of a tax to re-build a bridge in which two counties (Johnson and Leavenworth) are interested. Mr. Penner of DeSoto spoke in behalf of the proposal. He stated that without the bridge people on the other side of the river must drive several miles out of the way to come across to do business. He states this would connect Highways 10, 32 and old 40. Mr. Mosher of Leavenworth County stated that his main interest is in having a way across so the farmers can get into town and do business. He states that the people must drive from 12 to 25 miles out of their way now. Mr. Gabriel of DeSoto, who is a banker, states that they can no longer serve a number of customers they were accustomed to serve, although some do continue to do their business with him by mail; that it is the other businesses that suffer because of the inconvenience of not having this bridge. Mr. Goodrum of DeSoto states that he has been in the grain business in DeSoto for the past 15 years, and that after the bridge went out his business dropped \$150,000 per year, or approximately one-third; that people who used to drive as little as a half mile to get to the elevator must now drive 10 to 15 miles, and that as a consequence, much of the grain now goes to Leavenworth, Lansing and Kansas City. Mr. Gastl said the authors are working on an amendment to make it more acceptable to certain of those who object to certain areas of the proposal, and he was advised by Mr. Taylor to present it to the committee as soon as possible.

Mr. Dempsy, representative from Leavenworth County, voiced his objections to the bill by stating that he felt the people should have an opportunity to vote on something that was going to levy a tax on them; that if this is provided for he will have no objection to the bill.

Mr. Harry King called to the attention of the committee, a joint resolution of the joint board of County Commissioners, in favor of the levy and the building of the bridge.

Mr. Scallorn was introduced to discuss H.B. 246, concerning housing for individuals displaced by urban renewal. He states that both the Wichita and Kansas City area are in favor of this measure.

Mr. Scallorn further discussed H.B. 277, the so-called "right to know" bill. He states he thinks it is a good bill; that it would permit the taxpayer to step into any governmental meeting and see what is going on insofar as the public officials are concerned; that he thinks people have the right to know what goes on in their local government.

Mr. Taylor asked Mr. Underwood if he had had an opportunity to look over 352 and decide if it would adversely affect his 293, and Mr. Underwood stated he had no objection; THEREUPON Mr. Johnson moved, seconded by Mr. Ford, that this bill be passed out favorably. Motion carried.

The Chairman then inquired the feeling of the Committee concerning H.B. 246, and Mr. Fribley moved, seconded by Mr. Doyen, that this bill be reported adversely. Motion carried by a majority vote.

Mr. Doyen moved and Mr. Marshall seconded, that H.B. 277 be reported adversely. Mr. Johnson made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Ford, that the bill be recommended favorably for passage, as amended. The substitute motion failed. Vote on the original motion carried, to pass the bill out unfavorably.

Mr. Taylor stated that he had another proposed bill, for the benefit of Allen County, dealing with hospitals, construction, additions, etc. and amends Section 19-1878 of the General Statutes of 1949. Mr. Fribley moved that the bill be referred to the committee as a whole without the necessity of bringing it back into the committee, and recommend it favorably. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ford, and upon vote, carried by a majority vote.

Mr. Fribley discussed Senate Bill 198, dealing with the Probation and Parole Board. He stated that this would create a 3-man full-time board at \$8500 per year, plus actual travel and other expenses; that this would insure a more uniform procedure and permit more consideration of the individual cases; that these positions will be appointive rather than by specific rules and qualifications; that he feels the governor in this board will deal with individuals rather than politics. Mr. Fribley then moved, seconded by Mr. Doyen, that S.B. 198 be recommended favorably. By ballot vote, motion carried 13-4.

Mr. Underwood discussed H.B. 293 and proposed certain amendments. After considerable discussion and questions and answers, Mr. Ford moved and Mr. Doyen seconded that this measure be tabled. Mr. Underwood made a substitute motion that the bill be recommended for passage, as amended. By ballot, the substitute motion lost by vote of 10 to 4. By ballot the motion to table the bill was carried by a vote of 11 to 2.

Meeting adjourned.