

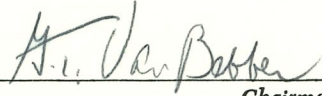
MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS

Held in Room 510, at the Statehouse at 2:45 ~~x.m.~~/p. m., on February 20, 1975.

All members were present except: Mr. Slattery and Mr. Marshall who were excused.

The next meeting of the Committee will be held at 2:45 ~~x.m.~~/p. m., on February 24, 1975.

These minutes of the meeting held on February 19, 1975 were considered, ~~corrected~~ and approved.



Chairman

The conferees appearing before the Committee were:

Mr. Arden Ensley, Revisor's Office

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, and Rep. Hayes was requested to make a report on behalf of himself and Rep. Slattery, on H.B. 2169. He explained that this is an amendment to the Workmen's Compensation Act; that firemen are covered under Workmen's Compensation and also have the Firemen's Relief Fund. The bill would allow them to elect which they come under. He stated that testimony had indicated that benefits to firemen are better under the Relief Fund, but that he doesn't believe this is always the case; that it depends on how the Trustee has invested the funds; that some groups might get adequate benefits and others might not. He also explained that \$2.00 out of every \$100.00 insurance written in a district goes to the Insurance Commissioner and is distributed to the Firemen's Relief Fund; that the amount depends entirely upon how much insurance is written.

The Chairman displayed a letter from the League of Kansas Municipalities, suggesting an amendment, and Mr. Hayes states he felt they didn't go far enough with their election proposal. Mr. Hayes stated that some of the cities are having trouble coming up with the necessary funds to pay the premiums for coverage; that testimony indicated here in Topeka it costs over \$90,000.00 for the Workmen's Compensation, and since the firemen think they get better coverage under their own fund it seemed unwise to pay for something they don't want. It was moved by Mr. Hayes and seconded by Mr. Ward that the bill be amended on page 2, line 29 and on page 3, line 9. After considerable discussion, it was decided the amendments should be given additional attention and the motion was withdrawn. Mr. Hayes agreed to get the amendments prepared.

Rep. Buzzi explained that H.B. 2355 deals with fire safety and protection and speaks about apartment houses; that this was offered at the request of inspectors. He stated there is a new Sec. 2 which defines an apartment so far as the Fire Marshall is concerned.

The Chairman called for discussion on Executive Order #7, and reminded members that Mr. Mills had described the revisions under the proposed order and explained the difference between the existing operation and the proposed operation. He also distributed a chart prepared by Mr. Mills.

The Chairman stated that the Budget message shows what the fiscal note actually is, and that someone had asked some questions about it; that it can be found on page 137 of the budget message. He stated that the total budget for fiscal 1976 is shown at \$2,379,523, while the 1975 estimate was \$2,070,538. Also, he stated that questions had been asked about the Minority Business Division, and it is funded on page 139; that this has been created by statute previously but has never been funded.

Mr. Morris stated that he had inquired about tourism and that he found that this will be under the division of Development. Mr. Lindahl inquired about fuel and Mr. Ensley stated that he understands they are going to establish an energy office and that it will be a separate division in the Governor's office.

Mr. R. Miller inquired about the couple or so other divisions which are not included and wondered if these had been overlooked. Mr. Ensley explained that this had been reviewed and it wasn't overlooked, but he didn't know where they would fit; that this is designed to be reorganized much along the line of other departments which have been reorganized in recent years. He pointed out that the department heads will be unclassified with the approval of the Finance Council and that there should be a bill introduced along these lines cleaning up the overlaps, and suggested this committee might want to consider a companion measure.

The Chairman displayed a proposed amendment for H.B. 2281, which he explained was needed because this particular section has been superseded by the new law. It was moved by Mr. R. Miller and seconded by Mr. Ward that the amendment be adopted. Motion carried with Mr. Anderson abstaining. It was then moved by Mr. Morris and seconded by Mr. D. Miller that the bill as amended be recommended favorably. Motion carried with Mr. Anderson abstaining.

It was moved by Mr. Feleciano and seconded by Mr. T. Slattery that the minutes be approved as written. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned.