

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON Federal and State Affairs

Held in Room 510, at the Statehouse at 2:45 ~~am~~ p. m., on 3-13, 19 75.

All members were present ~~except~~:

The next meeting of the Committee will be held at 2:45 ~~am~~ p. m., on March 17, 19 75.

These minutes of the meeting held on _____, 19____ were considered, corrected and approved.



Chairman

The conferees appearing before the Committee were:

Rep. Carlos Cooper
Rep. Mike Glover
Rev. Richard Taylor
Dee Bernhard

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, who displayed a bill which was requested by the Governor's office establishing a state housing finance authority. It was moved by Mr. Ward and seconded by Mr. Reeves that the bill be introduced and referred back to committee. Motion carried.

The Chairman called for discussion on HCR 2017, and it was moved by Mr. D. Miller and seconded by Mr. Marshall that it be reported adversely. Mr. Rodrock made a substitute motion that the Resolution be amended in line 3 by inserting "women" after the word "qualified". Motion was seconded by Mr. Hayes, and upon vote the motion lost. Mr. Lindahl made a substitute motion that no action be taken, but that the Resolution be held over. Motion was seconded by Mr. Sellers. After extensive discussion, the substitute motion carried by a majority vote. Mr. D. Miller and Mr. Anderson requested to be recorded as voting no.

Mr. Cooper, co-sponsor of HB 2488, discussed the bill. He explained that the bill had been drafted hastily when the deadline was near, and that he would like to suggest the phrase "public information" be substituted for "public relations" in all instances. He stated that he believes the legislative product has vastly improved in recent years by use of interim studies and earnest efforts on the part of members; that he feels the public should be aware of this and that a public information office could do a great deal for the legislative image.

Mr. Lindahl stated that he felt the press was doing a good job and that other services now offered, gave the public a very good picture of what is going on. The Chairman asked specifically how such a service would be implemented. Dee Bernard explained that such an office would have access to all the media, would send out announcements, and would be in a position to contact local radio stations and newspapers which don't have a wire service; that it will open up a whole new world to the people; that for example Minnesota has a mailing list of about 500 names and organizations; that they publish a weekly summary of legislation

introduced, pending, acted upon, etc. Mr. Feleciano expressed the opinion that just about all of these things are already being done at this time.

The Chairman stated there is a fiscal note; that it is impossible to estimate the actual cost but that the minimum is estimated to be \$20,000 annually.

Representative Glover appeared to discuss his HB 2402, which proposes to lower the age limit on the purchase of alcoholic beverages. (see printed statement) He stated that since majority rights have been conferred on 18 year olds in many areas, they should have this right also.

The Rev. Richard Taylor offered a printed statement which was read for him by Mr. D. Miller. (see printed statement)

Mr. Buzzi discussed his HB 2499, concerning cruelty to animals. He explained this is the same bill which came out of Judiciary last year; that it was the result of a great deal of work and he felt one reason it was defeated on the floor was the "protection from the elements" phrase, and for certain range cattle this is not an issue. He stated this was a concern of some of the rural people and that this has now been eliminated from the bill. He explained that this does not affect rodeos or hunting laws; that it embodies most of the things contained in the several other cruelty bills. Members of the committee expressed concern about "sale to the highest bidder" in the event the highest bid did not cover the cost of care and board for the animal; about the term "abandoned" and "malice"; and whether or not the bill is really practical. Still another member pointed out that this outlaws cockfighting and coursing.

Mr. Buzzi stated he would visit with the Revisor and with the members who have objections, and try to come up with agreeable amendments.

The meeting was adjourned.

STATE OF KANSAS

MICHAEL GEORGE GLOVER
REPRESENTATIVE FORTY-FOURTH DISTRICT
DOUGLAS COUNTY
1308 SUMMIT
LAWRENCE, KANSAS 66044



TOPEKA

HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
MEMBER: ASSESSMENT AND TAXATION
COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL
INSTITUTIONS

3-13-75

March 13, 1975

The Honorable G. T. Van Bebber, Chairman
Federal and State Affairs Committee
House of Representatives
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Representative Van Bebber:

I wish to thank Chairman Van Bebber and the committee for hearing my arguments on House Bill 2402. This bill would allow 18 year olds to consume alcoholic liquor.

This committee has, in previous sessions, heard the many opposing views of this matter. So, I will be brief and only outline the major reasons in support of this bill.

In 1971 and 1972, the major rights of adulthood were conferred upon 18 year olds - those of voting and majority. 18 year old Kansans can serve in our state legislature and can, to the best of my knowledge, hold most other state and elective offices. An 18 year old may, without their parent's consent, marry and incur binding contractual agreements.

What Kansas now faces is whether we will allow 18 year olds to assume another right of adulthood. In most cases a hangover can be more easily alleviated than a marriage or a \$500 promisory note. Clearly, it is not logical to allow an 18 year to marry, sign a note, but not buy a bottle of wine.

While opponents of this bill may argue that consumption of liquor by 18 year olds causes more auto accidents, this is not the case. 18 year olds have, since 1935, been able to buy 3.2 beer which can render a person as intoxicated as hard liquor. 18 year olds can legally get drunk and drive at this time and I am afraid to say they do.

The availability of liquor at an earlier age may allow a person whom may have a drinking problem to discover it at an earlier age before he has incurred family obligation. One of the major problems with liquor is the problem drinker who allows liquor to injure his family, and it would alleviate our liquor problems somewhat if less problem drinkers have families.

Sincerely,

Michael G. Glover
State Representative
44th District

To date, we are supplying the following services to state representatives and to the public:

1. "Today and Tomorrow in the Iowa House of Representatives," a daily advance sheet of committee schedules and agendas. Goes to each representative, senator, representative of Statehouse press corps, lobbyists inside the Capitol;
NOT MAILED.
2. "This Week in the Iowa House of Representatives," a weekly wrap-up designed for members' use as a basis for their own personal/partisan newsletters sent at their expense to local media. Not mailed. (Iowa has no appropriations for constituent contacts--not even for postage. The PIO is working on a request for establishment of mailing lists for THIS office, however).
3. We will begin to summarize committee work daily on January 27, using the form enclosed.
4. A senior broadcast journalist from Drake University will begin daily announcement feeds on January 27 to any of the 87 Iowa radio stations which call to use the information. (You might want to dial 515 281 5869 for a sample). It is a maximum 3-minute announcement carried on a simple Bell System automatic answering device @ \$15.00 monthly. We have early indications that it will be used by several stations, and will keep you posted as to its success.
5. A senior photography student from Drake University is building a photography file on each representative and to date, has photographed 96 of the 100 members. He supplies photographic services upon request; we log these, and we supply the member one 5 x 7 black and white glossy free, and charge 65 cents for each additional print.
6. We plan a Public Information Desk in the legislative rotunda of the Capitol which will direct visitors to their own representatives, and which will contain pieces we develop stressing the legislative process; i. e., a new version of "How a Bill Becomes a Law," a "Welcome to the Iowa House of Representatives," which will contain a seating chart, etc. The hitch in launching the latter is manpower--womanpower, I should say, since the woman doorkeeper we planned to put at the desk (to avoid adding another employee to the House staff) has resigned. We will keep trying!
7. We have the use of the Speaker's research assistant so we may provide advance background papers of the session's most complex/controversial issues in layman's language.
8. I write backgrounders as my time permits. See enclosed glossary of budget terms.
9. We expedite requests for help on visitations to the Capitol--especially for school students.
10. We have arranged for space for the press corps; we plan a get-together (working session) with the bi-partisan leadership and the Statehouse press corps soon.
11. We have designed a logo for the office and letterheads, envelopes, and other pieces will soon have identifiable PIO markings.

12. We hadn't been in operation two weeks when I had an offer from a small college speech/journalism instructor to help us establish a "professional semester" for the Iowa PIO in 1976--giving credence to my early statement that the Iowa PIO would pay student stipends in 1975, but never again! The practicum for students has endless value, and the arrangement will be mutually beneficial. It is an excellent way to staff an office on a low budget--the young people I have are excellent at assuming responsibility; they are skilled and were recommended by reliable faculty advisers.

Perhaps I am guilty of providing more information than you could possibly want at this time--but then again, perhaps this letter will serve as a rough backgrounder for your "Iowa" file.

When you come to Iowa, Ev, in February, I will try to have our problem areas delineated so that you may advise us. I am looking forward to your visit! I expect to see you on February 13 or 14.

Sincerely,

Sharon Robinson

Sharon Robinson, Director
Iowa House of Representatives Public Information Office
Room 305.1 Statehouse
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Telephone 281 5129

COPIES TO: ✓ James H. Bowhay
Carolyn Kenton
Speaker Dale Cochran

This morning a friend said to me, "You are up here fighting alcohol just because you don't like it!" I don't like cottage cheese either, but I'm not up here fighting it. I just left it on the table at Rotary Club today.

The famous and beloved Peter Marshall, Presbyterian pastor and chaplain to the Senate in Washington said it this way, "Week days I have a steady stream of people who need help coming to my study in the church. Their lives are all messed up, and I guess you'd be surprised to know how often liquor is involved in the mess." (From the book, MR. JONES, MEET THE MASTER)

To date, beverage alcohol has not hurt me. But I have seen much suffering caused by the use of this social and recreational drug nobody needs. To be concerned for others means to be concerned about increased use of beverage alcohol.

Yesterday outside the House chamber, a well known and respected Representative said to me, "I don't buy your argument that alcohol is a drug problem." That is not my argument, it is a statement of fact from every authority in the field of alcoholism. We may differ on how to reduce the problem, but we will never make headway until we admit what is the problem.

If alcohol were not a drug problem, it would not be a problem. The National Commission on Marijuana and Drug Abuse found that "alcohol dependence is without question the most serious drug problem in this country today. It is strongly associated with violent crime, automobile accidents and deaths, suicide, broken marriages and job absenteeism."

Nationwide television recently presented "Sarah T - Portrait of a Teenage Alcoholic." Produced with guidance from Alcoholics Anonymous, the statement was made that it usually takes 15 years for an adult to develop into an alcoholic, but a teenager can do it in 15 months. Another authority in the field said, "The younger age at which an individual starts to ingest alcohol, the greater the chances that he will develop into a chronic alcoholic." (Dr. Jorge Valles, FROM SOCIAL DRINKING TO ALCOHOLISM)

Law is never the total answer to any problem in society, but it is part of the answer. Because law is part of the answer, the Kansas Legislature enacted the Uniform Controlled Substances Act in 1972. It prohibits the use of marijuana at any age. A person who profits from the sale of alcohol told me this morning the legal drinking age should be 18 for all forms of beverage alcohol, it should be uniform. I said if we were to be consistent, marijuana should be legal at that age also. He quickly told me that was wrong, saying, "In some countries they can smoke marijuana at any age -- terrible, terrible!"

In KSA 65-4102 there are eight tests to be used in determining if a drug is dangerous and should be prohibited under that law. If such procedure were applied to beverage alcohol, it would be included. A double standard was written into the law by specifically excluding beverage alcohol. (Section "f") No person in Kansas has the right to use marijuana at any age because of this law. For the same reasons, use of alcohol is not a right.

To compensate for the double standard of KSA 65-4102, other laws place restrictions upon alcohol, such as a legal age of 21 for wine and distilled spirits.

Yesterday the House debated at length and debated well some legislation concerned with death. Our concern today is expressed by magazine headlines:

LEGISLATING DEATH If you want to kill more teen-agers, there's a very simple device. Have your state legislature lower the legal drinking age to 18. Almost overnight the number of highway deaths involving teen-age drivers who have been drinking will zoom.
Parade Magazine, December 2, 1973