

MINUTES OF THE House COMMITTEE ON Federal and State Affairs

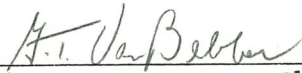
Held in Room 510, at the Statehouse at 8:15 a. m./p. m. on April 4, 1975.

All members were present except: Mr. J. Slattery

upon call

The next meeting of the Committee will be held at \_\_\_\_\_ a. m./p. m., on \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_.

These minutes of the meeting held on \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_ were considered, corrected and approved.



Chairman

The conferees appearing before the Committee were:

Senator Vincent Moore  
Representative Richard Loux

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman and Senator Moore was introduced to discuss SCR 23. He explained this is a Resolution which was introduced by the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources in the Senate, and which asks the U. S. Congress to enact legislation discontinuing regulation of the wellhead price on new natural gas, and to defeat legislation proposing to allocate gas in intrastate commerce. It was moved by Mr. Morris and seconded by Mr. Cooper that the Resolution be recommended for adoption. Motion carried. Mr. D. Miller asked to be recorded as voting no.

Material was distributed to members by the Revisor's office which is a proposal to amend the Governmental Ethics law. Mr. Loux explained that he was a member of the ad hoc committee comprised of Representative VanBebber, Rep. Maag, Rep. Carlin, and Senators Storey, Talkington, Saar and Janssen; that the committee had met numerous times and had gone through the statutes, opinions of the Commission, and studied the effects of the law to this point. This is the result of this study and in general the proposed amendments were a unanimous effort on the part of the committee.

Mr. Loux pointed out that the proposed changes incorporate many of the opinions of the Ethics Commission. In particular the committee wanted to exempt appointed members of advisory councils and boards where they serve without compensation except for expenses. The proposal defines lobbyist more thoroughly, removes some associated persons from the requirement of disclosure, and requires monthly filing of expenditures during the time legislature is in session, and quarterly the rest of the year.

Mr. R. Miller inquired if during the interim someone took a committee out, they would file a report of the expenses, and Mr. Loux stated not unless they discussed a matter of legislation. The Chairman agreed that perhaps this may need some clarification.

Mr. Loux stated that Section 9 gives some leeway to members of the legislature in collecting money and exempts them unless they derive some personal monetary benefit from such collection. He explained the

way it is now legislators can't even collect for United Funds. Mr. R. Miller inquired if a person was going to have a big party and solicited money, booze and food, it would be exempt. Mr. Loux stated that would be for your own benefit, and it was not the intent to exempt them.

Mr. D. Miller inquired why the Attorney General and Secretary of State are excluded in Sec. 16, and Mr. Robert Coldsnow, Legislative Counsel, explained that under some sections of the law a county attorney could file a suit and the attorney general become involved, which would be a conflict.

The Chairman stated that the Commission had ruled they would not answer questions from an individual unless it directly affected the individual, but the committee felt this was not proper and have suggested that if they are affected by the law they have a right to ask questions and receive answers.

Mr. Morris inquired if there would be any objection to providing that a person could terminate his position as lobbyist prior to the end of the year and Mr. Loux stated it could be done. Mr. Robert Miller stated he would like to see the proposed changes incorporated when the bill is introduced if it is going to the Committee of the Whole. The Committee agreed that this would be proper. It was moved by Mr. Sellers and seconded by Mr. Ward that the four suggested changes be made prior to introduction. Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Sellers and seconded by Mrs. Matlack that the bill, with corrections, be introduced and referred to the Committee of the Whole. Motion carried without dissent.

The meeting was adjourned.