

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

The meeting was called to order by Sen. Fred Kerr and Rep. Bill Fuller at
Chairpersons

9:15 a.m./~~p.m.~~ on January 12, 1983 in room 313-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present:

Bruce Hurd, Revisor of Statutes' Office
Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department
Kathleen Moss, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

United States Congressman Pat Roberts
United States Congressman Dan Glickman

The joint meeting of the Senate Agriculture and Small Business Committee and the House Agriculture and Livestock Committee was called to order by Sen. Kerr. He said it is a privilege to have Congressmen Roberts and Glickman, members of the House Agriculture Committee in Washington, with us today. They are in Topeka to attend the Board of Agriculture meeting and consented to come before the two Kansas committees to discuss legislation that will be before the Agriculture committees in Washington in the next few weeks.

Rep. Fuller, Chairman of the House Agriculture and Livestock Committee welcomed both Congressmen and expressed appreciation in having them here. He mentioned the overall economic crisis and the effects of the recession, and in some cases depression for the farming and agri-business industries and that we must try to address these problems for the survival of the rural communities. We need to work together to attain some satisfaction in solving the agricultural problems. Grain warehousing was studied by the interim committee and will be an issue.

Congressman Dan Glickman was recognized. He spoke of agriculture problems. There are two major issues: (1) Grain elevator bankruptcies, and (2) Insuring grain assets. He felt the bankruptcy laws would have to be amended as there is a need to determine ownership of grain. The bankruptcy bill did not pass last year but they will try again this year. If you have a grain elevator that is mismanaged, then the farmer is stuck. You have to look at the other side. Should we establish a fund such as banks have? Who would pay for the fees? There is a need to explore the idea of insuring grain elevators and assets. We don't know how to do it with the interstate movement of grain. We have to determine how far to get into state law. The PIK program is an innovative idea. We do not believe it will bring prices up. In the long term it will reduce stocks. In the short term, lots of grain will be marketed and sold.

Congressman Pat Roberts said farmers are in a very rough time. This is the fourth year in a row, at least in the First District, that farmers are hurt. Times are tough in farm country and what are we going to do about it? The PIK would have been more applicable in 1980 or 1981. The president did say he was signing a contract sanctity bill that simply means the administration or organization cannot use farmers. Secretary Block has done an excellent job and will continue to work for the farmers. There is a new group in Kansas called the Farm Coalition. Hopefully farm organizations can get together and agree on something. We do have concerns on legislation for farmers and farm organizations. What we do and not do is going to be important.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK,
room 313-S, Statehouse, at 9:15 a.m./~~XXX~~_{PM} on January 12, 19⁸³.

There were several questions about declining prices, exports, farm loans, the PIK program, price floor, reserves and other agriculture problems. The questions were answered by both congressmen. It was brought out that PIK is constructive. The number one problem in Washington is getting spending under control. The government needs to step in on this.

Rep. Fuller commented he hoped this joint meeting of the Senate and House Agriculture committees and the United States Congressmen would become an annual event in Kansas.

The meeting was closed at 10:15 a.m.

The next meeting is at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 13, 1983 in Room 423-S.

GUEST REGISTER

DATE Jan. 12, 1983

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

NAME	ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS
Marvin Umbholtz	Ks. Credit Union League	Topeka
M. Hawwee	Topeka Capital Journal	"
John Severe	Ks Grain & Feed Dealers Assn	Hutchinson
TOM TUNNELL	KANSAS GRAIN & FEED DEALERS ASSN	"
John Enfort	K RFD	Hutch
B. Crenshaw	CKFD	Topeka
JACK ROBERTS	BC-B S	"
BILL BRADY	Leg	Parsons
JOHN BLYTHE	K. FARM BUREAU	MANH. - TOP
MIKE BEAM	KLA	TOPEKA
BURT DeBAUN	Repr	OSAGE CITY
Jim Patterson	Repr.	Independence
Cindy Eubaker	Intern - WSU	Wichita
Jammy Johnson	Intern - WSU	Wichita
David Reeders		Osaloosa
Darrell T. Ringer	KANS - AAM	Quinter
Rep. Robert D "Bob" Miller	legis lecture	Russell
Janice Miller		Russell
Dore Garten	Ks ant. & Robots	Dodge City
DAVID CALOVICH	KIN	TOPEKA
Ken Klaus	Covis office	Topeka