

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

The meeting was called to order by Rep. Bill Fuller at
Chairperson

9:00 a.m. on February 24, 1983 in room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Rep. Niles, excused

Committee staff present:

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

Conferees appearing before the committee:

John Crofoot, Kansas Grain and Feed Dealers Association
Mike Beam, Kansas Livestock Association
Dee Likes, Kansas Livestock Association

Chairman Fuller opened the meeting stating that the hearing on HB 2299 will continue today concerning the requirement that moisture devices be tested. He expressed appreciation to the conferees for cooperating and returning today.

John Crofoot, representing the Kansas Grain and Feed Dealers was called. He said they did not oppose moisture testing but they certainly want the devices to be accurate. He noted that a statement had been made that testing had been in favor of the farmer. He would want the program to be beneficial to their members. He would recommend that the program be studied. If it could be done in an economic manner they would support legislation, but at this time do not feel they could do it.

Mike Beam, representing the Kansas Livestock Association was recognized. He said they will continue to be opposed to HB 2299 as in past sessions.

There were numerous questions from the committee to the State Sealer, John O'Neill, including questions about complaints, accuracy, large scales and small scales and repairs. The fiscal note and fees charged were discussed. Concerns expressed included the fact that their people are spread pretty thin and there is a problem of getting grain samples in the field.

Dee Likes appeared for the Kansas Livestock Association in opposition to HB 2299. He believes it is important that meters must be accurate, but if you haul meters around they get out of calibration. KLA tried to get another truck for large scales but could not because of money. They do not feel it would be beneficial to producers and do not feel evidence points toward a need for this type of legislation.

Chairman Fuller shared information he received concerning costs of tests by the Mid-America Testing Service. It may be purchased as a contract at \$195 per year. For that fee the service includes two service calls plus complete service on the equipment and any emergency service required. One-time service is \$120 plus 50¢ per mile. If they are already in the area, they won't charge transportation.

It was suggested to find out how much moisture testers are off, also how much business has increased in the last year or two. Mr. O'Neill said after questions, that there is no guarantee that calibration will hold for any length of time. He did say machines need to be calibrated regularly.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK,
room 423-S, Statehouse, at 9:00 a.m./~~p.m.~~ on February 24, 1983.

The hearing was closed on HB 2299.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:37 a.m.

The next meeting will be at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 1, 1983
in Room 423-S.

