

Approved

R.H. February 8, 1983
Date

MINUTES OF THE House COMMITTEE ON Elections

The meeting was called to order by Representative Richard L. Harper at
Chairperson

9:00 a.m. a.m./p.m. on February 1, 1983 in room 526-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative Henry Helgerson, excused.

Committee staff present: Myrta Anderson, Legislative Research Department
Ramon Powers, Legislative Research Department
Arden Ensley, Revisor of Statute's Office
Eric Rucker, Secretary of State's Office
Dottie Musselman, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Representative Polson, Author of HB 2050

Chairperson Harper called the Elections Committee meeting to order.

The first order of business was HB 2050, and Representative Polson was called to the floor by Chairperson Harper, to explain his bill. HB 2050 is An Act relating to political parties; concerning precinct committeemen and committee-women. Representative Polson said that HB 2050 was a bill which addresses the need for making the election precinct committee people consistent with other local officials.

Informational material which showed the cost of ballots and election board time to conduct the election of committee people was passed out to the members of the Committee at this time. (Attachment 1).

Also handed out was a copy of a letter written to Representative Polson by Gayle Landoll, Marshall County Clerk, concerning HB 2050, regarding the cost to print the ballots for precinct committeemen and committeewomen offices. (Attachment 2).

Larry Schiller, Leavenworth County Clerk, who had stated earlier he wanted to testify on HB 2050, did not appear due to the weather.

After some Committee discussion on HB 2050, Chairperson Harper thanked Representative Polson for explaining his bill.

Attention was then called to HB 2015. Chairperson Harper noted that a proposed amendment was presented by Representative Nichols at the January 25, 1983 meeting. Representative Nichols stated that the amendment allows a person to get their name off the petition within three days after being filed, and said that it would make the individual wishing to take his name off a petition go to the courthouse to do it, thus, having to make the effort to do so.

Representative Crumbaker moved for the adoption of the amendment of Representative Nichols. Representative Acheson seconded. Motion carried.

Chairperson Harper stated that a gentleman from the Western part of the state who is a victim of a recall petition, would like to appear before the Committee on HB 2015. The Chairperson added he thought it would be well to hear from this party, as it would give the Committee input from someone who has actually been a victim of a petition.

At this time, no final action was taken on HB 2015, and Chairperson Harper said that more discussion on this particular bill would be scheduled for next Tuesday, February 8, 1983.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House COMMITTEE ON Elections,
room 526-S, Statehouse, at 9:00 a.m. a.m./p.m. on February 1, 1983.

Representative Fox made the motion to approve the minutes of the January 25 and 26th meetings. Representative Justice seconded. Motion carried.

There being no other discussion, Chairperson Harper adjourned the meeting at 9:40 a.m.

(attachment 1)

February 1, 1983

TO: MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS

HB 2050 addresses the need for making the election precinct committee people consistent with other local officials.

Hundreds of precincts all over this state have no election other than the one for precinct committee people every other two years. The cost in ballots and election board time to conduct the election of committee people is incompatible with the law which provides for 4-year terms in all offices except for the House of Representatives which is a 2-year term and does not appear on the local ballot.

<u>Ballot Cost</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>County Clerk</u>
\$ 250.00	Allen	Jean Barber
2,100.00	Leavenworth	Larry Shiller
1,225.00	Riley	Wanda Coder
690.00	Marshall	Gayle Lowell
300.00	Jefferson	Alyce Riedesel

AK b. 1

(attach mt2)

MARSHALL COUNTY, KANSAS

GAYLE LANDOLL
COUNTY CLERK

COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE
PHONE 913 562-██████ 5361
MARYSVILLE, KANSAS 66508

MELBA COFFEE
DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK

January 25, 1983

Representative Lloyd Polson
Room 170-W
State Capitol Building
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Lloyd:

Following is the information you requested concerning House Bill No. 2050, which would set a four year term for precinct committeemen and committeewomen.

In Marshall County in 1981 it cost \$690.25 to print the ballots for these precinct offices. This was thirty-seven percent (37%) of the total bill for printing of ballots for the 1981 Primary Election. In 27 out of 33 precincts we had to have a separate ballot for precinct committeemen and committeewomen. Normally these offices are combined with the county offices on the ballot, but the only county officer on the ballot in 1981 was Commissioner of the first district, which involves only 6 of the 33 precincts.

Out of the 132 precinct offices up for election we had only 43 persons file. This resulted in many ballots with nothing but a blank line and resulted in 520 write-in votes. While I cannot say that I required extra persons to serve on the election boards because of the write-ins, it did definitely slow down the process of tallying the votes.

I have spoken to the county chairman from both political parties and both stated that they saw no problem nor would they object to the term of office being increased to four years.

As always, thank-you for the help you have given me and if I can be of any further assistance with this bill or any other please call me.

Yours truly,



Gayle Landoll
Marshall County Clerk

Atch. 2

(Attachment 3)



**League
of Kansas
Municipalities**

PUBLISHERS OF KANSAS GOVERNMENT JOURNAL/112 WEST SEVENTH ST., TOPEKA, KANSAS 66603/AREA 913-354-9565

January 28, 1983

Representative Richard Harper
Chairman, House Committee on
Elections
State Capitol--Room 175-W
Topeka KS 66612

Dear Representative Harper:

I goofed! I somehow failed to note the hearing on HB 2015, relating to petitions for elections. Please be advised that the League of Kansas Municipalities, by city convention action, is in support of HB 2015.

While we favor the bill generally, we are particularly concerned about the passage of the provision requiring petitions to be filed within 90 days. Although I am not aware of any recent problems, there have been situations in the past where some petitions have "floated" for a substantial time period. There needs to be some appropriate close-off date.

Sincerely,

E.A. Mosher
Executive Director

EAM:grs

Atch. 3