

Approved 2/23/83
Date

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS

The meeting was called to order by Edward F. Reilly, Jr. at
Chairperson

11:00 a.m. ~~on~~ February 21, 1983 in room 254-E of the Capitol.

All members were present ~~except~~:

Committee staff present: Russell Mills, Legislative Research
Fred Carman, Assistant Revisor of Statutes
June Windscheffel, Secretary to the Committee

Conferees appearing before the committee: Senator Jack Steineger
Captain Roger Thebo, Assistant Director, Bureau of
Services, Kansas City, Kansas, Police Department
Loren Taylor, Legal Advisor to Kansas City, Kansas,
Police Department
Senator Roitz
Representative Farrar
Marjorie Van Buren, Judicial Administrator's Office

The Chairman recognized Senator Steineger who appeared concerning SB208. He stated that the law states that one cannot start law enforcement training until he or she has reached 21 years of age, and that his conferees are here to inform the committee how this works a hardship on the police cadet program.

Captain Roger Thebo appeared and stated they were asking for the change because at the present time they send people through the cadet program before they are 21 years of age. If one is a high school graduate he or she may make application to join the cadet program. Applicants may be as young as 16 years of age and no older than 19. Cadets must take at least three hours of college work per semester in police science. Cadets train for 18 weeks in various phases of administrative work within the police department. However, no one may become a police officer until attaining the age of 21 years of age.

Loren Taylor appeared next. He said that their cadet program is getting a lot of national recognition. It is comparable to a ROTC program. They do not perform law enforcement functions at all during their candidate program. They do clerical work in every department of the police department. He said that the cadets have invaluable training in law enforcement, and that their program is an extremely important pilot project that has proven itself.

Senator Roitz spoke in favor of SB76. He distributed copies of newspaper articles favorable to the bill. (Attachment #1).

Rep. Farrar appeared in favor of SB76. His prepared remarks are attached. (Attachment #2), concerning reducing legislative pay from \$45 to \$43 per day.

Marjorie Van Buren appeared concerning SB76. She said that it would affect retired judges who are assigned to hear cases but they do not anticipate a problem with it.

Senator Morris moved that the Minutes of February 15, 1983, be approved as corrected, and that the Minutes of February 17, 1983, be approved. 2d by Senator Gannon. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.

February 21, 1983
Attachment #1

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Capital Notes



Legislators to Propose 5% Cut in Own Salaries

Rep. Keith Farrar says that if legislators were paid what they thought they were worth, they'd be paid a lot more. But, he adds, if they were paid what the citizens thought they were worth, they'd be paid a lot less.

So Farrar, R-Hugoton, figures it's a fair compromise to take a small pay cut in view of the fact that state employees have had no raise lately.

Farrar says he and about 40 co-sponsors will introduce a bill to cut legislators' \$40-a-day pay by 5 percent. The cut amounts to \$2 a day, or \$210 a year, for each legislator. Alone that might seem like peanuts, but it amounts to about \$34,650 for 165 legislators.

Farrar admits the cut would be more symbolic than anything else. But, he adds, he has pangs of guilt when, as a member of the budget-writing House Ways and Means Committee, he must face state workers whose salary increases were frozen in the budget cuts Gov. John Carlin imposed last year to cope with the state's fiscal crisis.

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Sharing the cuts

The proposal to cut Kansas legislators' pay 5 percent to match state agency budget cuts won't do much to pull the state out of its current fiscal dilemma. But as a symbolic gesture, the pay cut could go a long way toward convincing budget-conscious constituents that the legislators are sympathetic to their plight.

Under a bill introduced in the House by Rep. Keith Farrar, R-Hugoton, each legislator's salary would be cut from \$45 a day to \$43 a day. In addition to his salary, each legislator receives \$50 a day to pay his expenses in Topeka during the 90-day session.

That's not much compensation for the men and women we have chosen to shape our laws and spend our tax dollars. A cut of two dollars a day, however, is not going to bankrupt any of our lawmakers.

Farrar and the 48 Republican legislators who endorsed the bill recognized that sometimes the value of an action isn't measured in tangible terms but in the message that the action conveys.

Farrar agreed that the pay cuts were largely symbolic. But, he reasoned, "Why should we be left out of the cuts if we're that concerned about the state's treasury balances?"

The budget crunch has "required other state officers and employees and the general public to make many personal sacrifices," he said. "I think it's important that we do our part."

We agree with Farrar. Too many voters see their government as distant, unresponsive and unfeeling. This small step may help convince voters that their lawmakers really do care.

And when better times return, good government may be rewarded with higher pay.

February 21, 1983
Attachment #2

STATE OF KANSAS

KEITH FARRAR
REPRESENTATIVE, 124TH DISTRICT
STEVENS, GRANT, STANTON,
MORTON, HASKELL COUNTIES
STAR ROUTE
HUGOTON, KANSAS 67951



TOPEKA

HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
MEMBER: WAYS AND MEANS
JOINT COMMITTEE ON STATE BUILDING
CONSTRUCTION
INSURANCE

Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee

Reference - SB 76

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I am glad to have the opportunity to ask for your support for SB 76. I am sure you all realize the few dollars involved in this bill in relationship to our overall budget problems. I would remind you that the legislative budget has been voluntarily cut approximately 4% to conform to the Governor's request of all agencies. However, that cut did not affect each one of us in the manner SB 76 does. Each of the 165 legislators will make a small contribution to reduce the load on the general fund if this bill would pass.

I would readily admit this is a symbolic gesture, but I feel the value of passing SB 76 should not be measured in monetary terms but in the message it carries to our constituents across the state of Kansas. We as legislators care and will try to do our part. Why should we be left out of the cuts if we are truly concerned about the state's balances.

One final thought, last year at this time we were paid 42 dollars a day. Under this proposal, you would drop from the present 45 dollars a day to 43 dollars a day and would remain there until we feel our balances are in shape to allow an increase in public employees pay.