

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

The meeting was called to order by Senator Elwaine F. Pomeroy at
Chairperson

10:00 a.m./~~p.m.~~ on January 17, 19 83 in room 514-S of the Capitol.

~~All~~ members ~~were~~ present ~~except~~ were: Senators Pomeroy, Winter, Burke and Werts.

Committee staff present: Mary Torrence, Revisor of Statutes
Mike Heim, Legislative Research Department
Mark Burghart, Legislative Research Department

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Senator Jan Meyers
Judge Lewis C. Smith, Olathe
Ben Neill, Johnson County Bar Association
Marjorie Van Buren, Office of Judicial Administrator

Senate Bill No. 34 - An act concerning nonpartisan selection of judges of the district court.

Senator Meyers, the sponsor of the bill, explained the Johnson County commission has been increased from three members to five members which creates an imbalance between the number of non-lawyer members and lawyer members of their judicial nominating commission. Their suggested remedy to the problem appears in lines 32 through 35 of the bill. Senator Meyers then introduced two conferees, Judge Lewis C. Smith, from Olathe, and Ben Neill, representing the Johnson County Bar Association.

Judge Smith discussed with the committee why the bill is needed. The chairman suggested the effective date be upon publication in the Kansas Register. Judge Smith was in favor of the suggestion.

Ben Neill spoke in support of the bill explaining the bill is simply clean up legislation. He pointed out there are a number of one-county judicial districts which could go to an expanded county commission and have the same problem as Johnson County.

Marjorie Van Buren, from the Judicial Administrator's office, commented that this is something that could occur in other counties at some time in the future.

The meeting adjourned.

1/7/83

GUESTS

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

NAME	ADDRESS	ORGANIZATION
Judge Lewis C. Smith	Olathe Ch. House	Judges Assoc.
Mayorie Van Buren	Topeka	Office of Judicial Admin
Harry Humes		Sen. Feineger
James L. Smith	Wichita	Separate Dist
Jan Meyers		Senator
Ben Neill	Kansas City	Johnson W. Bork Assn