

MINUTES OF THE Joint COMMITTEE ON Agriculture and Small Business and
Agriculture and Livestock

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Bill Fuller at
Chairperson

9:00 a.m./~~p.m.~~ on January 11, 1983 in room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative Shelor.

Committee staff present:

Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department
Norman Furse, Revisor of Statutes Office
Kathleen Moss, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

The joint meeting of the Senate Agriculture and Small Business Committee and the House Committee on Agriculture and Livestock was called to order by Senator Fred Kerr, Chairman of the Senate Committee.

Senator Kerr introduced Congressman Dan Glickman, member of the Federal Agriculture Committee who was in Topeka to attend the Department of Agriculture meeting. Congressman Glickman touched upon federal legislation and said that the most significant bill passed last year was the dairy bill. He told the committee that it was very controversial and split the farm community.

Congressman Glickman said there had been a federal assistance bill under consideration which would not have affected Kansas as much as Texas, but the Senate did not act on the bill. He expressed the view that the best legislation under consideration is intended to improve farm credit programs. He said major legislation is needed in the rural electrification and telephone area because some cooperatives are in trouble. He expressed the view that there needs to be more federal programs to deal with surplus foods, and still others to cope with grain elevator bankruptcies. He noted there are proposals pending which would offer grain insurance packages and treat grain elevators the same as banks. He suggested production be controlled by bushels instead of acreage. He told the committee he did not foresee any major farm legislation in 1984.

Rep. Fuller expressed appreciation to Congressman Glickman for attending the meeting. He commented about the image of agriculture programs, and inquired how it can be turned around. The Congressman said that there are many voices over the country and not all of them are bad. He expressed the view that agriculture should be elevated to the same level as industry so that responsible choices can be made to enhance the agriculture policy. Mr. Glickman said he would not want to see a guarantee of a certain amount of income but he certainly doesn't want farmers to go broke.

It was suggested that too much government is hurting farmers, but Rep. Glickman stated he didn't think that is true; that farmers are offered the same program as in 1937 and while there are a few deviations they are not as great as some people think. He said he felt farm exports are highly important but is concerned when he hears stories of adulteration of grain as it reaches foreign ports. He noted there had been a cut-back on inspectors and that there has not been a review of deliveries since then. He said there will be a series of hearings on that matter this year and people in agriculture, exports and imports will be heard from.

Congressman Glickman stated that Congress is looking at the issue of raising taxes, lowering medicaid and decreasing defense spending as well as looking at ways to deal with the federal deficit. He stated he did not believe social security or veterans pensions

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE Joint COMMITTEE ON Agriculture and Small Business and
Agriculture and Livestock,
room 423S Statehouse, at 9:00 a.m./~~p.m.~~ on January 11, 1984

should be reduced. He said that a world-wide program has been discussed but nobody can bring together a plan for world production.

Senator Kerr reminded members of a meeting on January 12th at 10:00 in the same room. The meeting adjourned at 10:20 A.M.