

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON Agriculture and LivestockThe meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Bill Fuller at
Chairperson9:00 a.m./~~p.m.~~ on February 17, 1984 in room _____ of the Capitol.All members were present except: Representatives Apt and Arbuthnot, who were excused.
Rep. Niles was absent.

Committee staff present:

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

Conferees appearing before the committee:

The Committee was called to order by the Chairman who called for action on Minutes of February 8, which had been previously distributed. It was moved by Rep. Johnson and seconded by Rep. Long that the Minutes be approved. Motion carried.

The Chairman announced that the hearing on HB 2831 would be concluded at this meeting. This bill relates to "bait and switch" practices in the sale of meat products. He noted that the Board of Agriculture is involved in administering the program, and that the Secretary, Harland Priddle and Mr. Woodson were present to discuss the proposal and answer questions.

Secretary Priddle directed attention to Section 5, and the Board's role in enforcement. He said that section documents their responsibility to act on behalf of the State of Kansas and consumers. He said they have done this on an informal basis through the Attorney General's office in the past. He suggested it might be helpful to amend Line 178 by saying "in addition to" instead of "in conjunction with". He explained he could not predict what the fiscal impact might be. He said he could also not predict if the bill would be a real deterrent to the practice.

Rep. Buehler said he had talked to some Illinois people about their law which has been in effect a little over a year. They reported it has worked well and has eliminated a lot of questionable operations. He explained he has other concerns and is asking the Revisor to prepare a balloon amendment for the Committee.

Susan Nugent, Consumer Protection Division, Attorney General's Office, was recognized. She said that her office feels this legislation may not be necessary in its present form. She explained the Consumer Protection Act has a provision addressing "bait and switch", and they are more comfortable with that than with a separate statute.

After discussion, the Chairman appointed the following subcommittee to study the bill and make recommendations to the Committee: Rep. Buehler, Chairman; and Representatives Roenbaugh and Rezac.

It was moved by Rep. Johnson and seconded by Rep. Long that a bill be drafted in response to Rep. Moomaw's request, and that the bill be referred back to Committee. Motion carried.

It was moved by Rep. Solbach and seconded by Rep. Johnson that the legislation to be introduced on the Farm Tenancy Act be amended to correct present errors in the statute. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 A.M. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 20, 1984, 9:00 A.M., Room 423-S.