

Approved 3/12/84
Date

SUB-
MINUTES OF THE House COMMITTEE ON Natural Resources

The meeting was called to order by Rep. Ron Fox, Vice-Chairman at
Chairperson

4:15 ~~a.m.~~/p.m. on February 1, 1984 in room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Kent Ott (excused)

Committee staff present:

Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes' Office
Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research
Pam Somerville, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

The Subcommittee met on adjournment of the regular meeting of the House Energy and Natural Resources Committee to conduct hearings on HB 2622 and HB 2623.

HB 2622 would delete all exemptions from the requirement to purchase a hunting, fishing, or furbearer harvester license. The bill would retain the exemption from the license requirement for landowners hunting or fishing on their own land. In essence, the proposed legislation would require residents under 16 and over 65 years of age to purchase a fishing or hunting license, and require resident individuals under 14 years of age to purchase a furharvesters license.

Mr. Bill Hazlett, Director, Kansas Fish and Game Commission, appeared before the committee in support of the proposed legislation. The commission felt that users of the Kansas fish and wildlife resources should contribute to the maintenance of the precious resources. Passage of the legislation would generate approximately \$1.2 million annually. (See Attachment 1).

Mr. Ted Cunningham, Kansas Outdoors Limited, appeared before the committee in support of HB 2622. He reiterated several of Mr. Hazlett's remarks.

Mr. Chick Hale, Horton, Kansas, Pottawatomie Indian Reservation, appeared in opposition to HB 2622. Mr. Hale, in prepared testimony, stated he felt it would be taking "a step backward" to repeal the exemption of seniors citizens, as well as American Indians, Armed Services Personnel, and individuals under the age of 16. Mr. Hale expressed concern that some aspects of the legislation created minority infractions. (See Attachment 2).

Mr. Roy Smith, an individual, spoke in opposition to the proposed legislation, particularly directed toward the senior citizens.

Mrs. Helen Jones, an individual, expressed concern for the senior citizens and felt they were getting "ripped off", and therefore was opposed to HB 2622.

Mr. Brad Hamilton, Native American Church of Kansas, and on behalf of himself, appeared before the committee in opposition to the proposed legislation (HB 2622). Mr. Hamilton noted that he was intimately familiar with the Kansas Fish and Game Commission, particularly since his father had been a supervisor for a number of years. He expressed concern that passage of the bill would have an adverse effect on persons over the age of 65 and on the American Indians.

Mr. Richard Beams, an individual, appeared in opposition to HB 2622. Again, the senior citizen issue arose and remarks reflected opposition to repealing the exemption for those persons over 65 years of age.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Sub- COMMITTEE ON Natural Resources,
room 519-S, Statehouse, at 4:15 ~~xxx~~ p.m. on February 1, 1984

The final conferee on HB 2622 was Mr. Dean Sheppard, an individual, who appeared in opposition to the bill.

Due to the short time allotted for the hearing on HB 2622, Vice-Chairman Fox asked that the Department of Aging appear at tomorrow's meeting (2/2/84 at 3:30 p.m.).

Hearing on HB 2623:

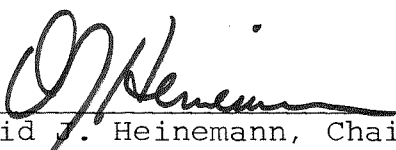
HB 2623 would authorize the Fish and Game Commission to issue a 24 hour fishing license and charge a maximum of \$3.00 (\$1.00 of which would go for the hatchery stamp). Passage of the legislation would generate approximately \$30,000 annually in revenue.

Mr. Kent Jackson, Assistant Director, Kansas Fish and Game Commission, appeared before the subcommittee in support of HB 2623. Mr. Jackson indicated the measure was supported by the Kansas Department of Economic Development, Kansas Outdoors Unlimited, the Park and Resources Authority, and the Special Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. He said due to the large numbers of people passing through the state, the Commission felt it would be fair and equitable to make the 24 hour fishing license available for a nominal fee. (Attachment 3).

The final conferee was Ms. Kathy Kruzic, Director, Travel and Tourism, Kansas Department of Economic Development. Due to the late hour, Ms. Kruzic presented prepared written testimony to the committee in support of the 24 hour fishing license and felt it would be a positive measure for the State and the Travel and Tourism Industry (Attachment 4).

There being no further business before the subcommittee, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting of the House Subcommittee on Natural Resources will be at 3:30 p.m., February 2, 1984 in Room 519-S.



David J. Heinemann, Chairman

Subcommittee
24

HOUSE BILL #2622
Removing License Exemptions

TESTIMONY NOTES
Presented to House ENR
February 1, 1984

House Bill 2622 would remove license exemptions presently granted to four groups of individuals: (a) over 65 years of age; (b) under 16 years of age; (c) military personnel; and (d) native American Indians with 1/16 or more Indian ancestry.

	Pop. <u>Involved</u>	Hunting (\$13.25) (13.3%)		Fishing (\$9.74) (29%)		Total <u>Income</u>
		<u>Pop.</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Pop.</u>	<u>Income</u>	
Over 65(X)	94,208	12,530	\$166,023	27,320	\$266,097	\$432,120
Under 16(*)	75,599	10,055	133,225	21,924	213,540	346,765
Military	36,000	3,600	47,700	5,400	52,596	100,296
Am. Indians	<u>2,193</u>	<u>877</u>	<u>11,620</u>	<u>1,316</u>	<u>12,818</u>	<u>24,438</u>
	208,000	27,062	\$358,566	55,960	\$545,051	\$903,619

(X) Excludes individuals over 70

(*) Excludes youth under 14

Kansas Fish and Game receives federal aid income based upon the number of licenses sold and the geographic size of Kansas. Annual federal aid presently received: \$2 million (hunting licenses) and \$500,000 (fishing licenses). Federal aid revenue gained from increased license sales by removing/reducing exemptions: \$4.25/hunting license and \$.74/fishing license. Federal aid income comprises over 20% of agency funding.

Many retirement laws have now been changed, rescinding mandatory retirement at age 65. The average life span has increased--more people are healthy and active at 65. Prior to 1972, Kansas residents up to 70 years of age were required to have a license to hunt or fish. Youth under 16 (more particularly age 14 to 16) have generally been introduced to the out-of-doors by age 14, and are required by law to have passed a hunter safety course and a fur-harvester course prior to hunting or trapping. Additionally, a junior fur-harvester license is necessary from age 14 to 16. Age 14 appears to be the age when youngsters move from grade school to high school; begin driving motor vehicles and, in general begin entering the adult world of responsibility for their actions.

Attachment 1
2-1-84
4:15 pm

Military personnel now enter the service on a voluntary basis--no one is drafted--and military service is now considered a vocation to be pursued, not mandatory duty to be endured.

Native American Indians and whites have fought and argued over who owns hunting and fishing rights for 200 years--with no agreement in sight. The problem has moved from determining ownership of Kansas fish and wildlife resources to preserving and wisely managing these natural resources that remain. The question now is not who owns the fish or fowl, but how do we save what we have?

Kansas Fish and Game is funded solely by the sale of hunting/fishing/trapping licenses. We are one of the few state agencies that are presently self-supporting, in addition to giving up \$175,000 in fines, over \$300,000 in interest, and over \$730,000 in exemptions to present users of our hunting and fishing resources. Over 25% of the people using our state fishing lakes and public wildlife areas do not need to be licensed.

1. Agency budget is currently one of "operation and maintenance" with a small sum dedicated to enhancing existing projects--no "new" expensive programs are initiated. We are in a "take care of what we have" budget mode.
2. Fish and Game will begin spending from reserve funds by FY 1986.
3. Agency reserve funds will be gone by 1990 under current spending rates.
4. Continued license fee increases will not provide enough money.
5. Presently we have major maintenance problems on existing projects that cannot be addressed (last state fishing lake was built 20 years ago): Lake basin renovation, spillway repair, dam re-rocked, drain valve--maint./replaced, replacement fences, fishing pier maintenance, bridge and road repair, etc. We are now deferring such projects as: waterfowl area major maintenance, statewide radio network, regional office construction, stream access site development, expansion of habitat program on private land, intensifying law enforcement efforts, and expanding our wildlife education service and urban wildlife programs.

Virtually all fish caught by anglers in Kansas are hatched, reared and stocked from Kansas Fish and Game hatcheries at significant cost to the license-buying sportsman. The cost of re-introducing antelope and wild turkey we now hunt, and the ruffed grouse, sharptail grouse and elk re-introductions that will probably lead to hunting seasons someday, has been borne by the licensed

sportsman. The conservation education materials we now provide Kansas schools to inform and educate youngsters about our fish and wildlife resources is funded only by the license-buying sportsman. We are not proposing to impose financial hardships on anyone, we only seek to license people that presently utilize Kansas fish and wildlife resources and do not pay for maintenance and management of this resource.

Granting exemptions because of past support, or past inequities, will not fund the future. We support the concept that users of the Kansas fish and wildlife resources should contribute to the maintenance of these precious resources.

Leslie "Chick" Hale
Post Office Box 4
Horton, Brown County, Kansas
66439

February 1, 1984

The Honorable David J. Heinemann, Chairperson
Special Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
State Capitol, Room 523 S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

RE: Testimony in opposition
of House Bill No. 2622
and related bills.

Dear Sir:

Please find attached, my prepared testimony in opposition of the proposed House Bill No. 2622 and related House Bills which I feel will directly affect the exemption status of the following peoples:

- 1.) Individuals over 65 years of age;
- 2.) Individuals under 16 years of age;
- 3.) Armed Forces Personnel, and;
- 4.) American Indians.

As you are aware, current State Statues affords these individuals the exemption from the fish and game licenses. It is my hope that copies of my testimony be submitted to each of your committee members. Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

Respectfully yours,

Leslie "Chick" Hale
Leslie "Chick" Hale

LCH/

cc: Governor John Carlin
Kickapoo Tribe of Kansas, Tribal Council
Prairie Band of Potawatomi, Tribal Council
Sac and Fox Tribe of Missouri, Tribal Council
Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska, Tribal Council
Ken Smith, Assistant Secretary of Interior, Indian Affairs
James Abieta, Supt., Horton Indian Agency, Bureau of Indian Affairs
File

*H/S
PW*

*2-1-84
Attachment 2*

LESLIE "CHICK" HALE
POST OFFICE BOX 4
HORTON, BROWN COUNTY, KANSAS 66439

FEBRUARY 1, 1984

TESTIMONY BEFORE: SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

RE: HOUSE BILL NO. 2622 - AN ACT CONCERNING FISH AND GAME; RELATING TO FISHING AND HUNTING LICENSES; AMENDING K.S.A. 1983 SUPP. 32-104, 32-104a and 32-104b AND REPEALING THE EXISTING SECTIONS; ALSO REPEALING K.S.A. 32-104j; 32-104k, AND 32-104l AND K.S.A. 1983 SUPP. 32-104n.

TO WHOM THIS MAY CONCERN:

HONORABLE DAVID J. HEINEMANN, MEMBERS OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

I APPRECIATE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SUBMIT OUR TESTIMONY CONCERNING THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION WHICH WOULD AMMEND AND/OR REPEAL CURRENT KANSAS STATE STATUES AFFORDING EXEMPTION FROM THE FISH AND GAME LICENCES TO THE FOLLOWING PEOPLES:

- 1.) INDIVIDUALS OVER 65 YEARS OF AGE;
- 2.) INDIVIDUALS UNDER 16 YEARS OF AGE;
- 3.) ARMED FORCES PERSONNEL, AND;
- 4.) AMERICAN INDIANS.

AT THIS JUNCTURE, PERMIT ME TO INTRODUCE MYSELF TO YOU. MY NAME IS LESLIE "CHICK" HALE, I AM A RESIDENT OF HORTON, BROWN COUNTY, KANSAS AND A LAND OWNER ON THE PRAIRIE BAND OF POTAWATOMI AND KICKAPOO RESERVATIONS

(PAGE ONE)

LESLIE "CHICK" HALE
TESTIMONY CONTINUED - PAGE TWO
FEBRUARY 1, 1984

IN NORTHEAST KANSAS. I AM A VETERAN OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY HAVING SERVED IN 1963 TO 1965. DURING THE PAST 12 YEARS MY CAREER HAS PRIMARILY BEEN ASSOCIATED IN WORKING WITH URBAN INDIAN ORGANIZATIONS AND TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS. I AM A FORMER TRIBAL CHAIRPERSON OF THE PRAIRIE BAND OF POTAWATOMI NATION OF WHICH I AM A TRIBALLY ENROLLED MEMBER. I HAVE HAD THE EXPERIENCE IN MY CAREER THUS FAR OF WORKING WITH FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, AS WELL AS WITH OTHER TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS OF THIS GREAT NATION OF OURS. SO YOU SEE, CONSIDERING PROPOSED LEGISLATION, WHETHER IT BE FEDERAL LEGISLATION, STATE LEGISLATION, OR TRIBAL LEGISLATION, IT HAS BEEN AN IMPORTANT ENDEAVOR FOR ME. I CAN RELATE TO EACH OF YOU, THE TASK BEFORE YOU ALL NOW AS KANSAS STATE LEGISLATORS AND I KNOW THAT YOUR CONSIDERATION OF THESE PROPOSED HOUSE BILL(S), WHETHER IT BE FOR OR AGAINST, SHALL NOT BE EASY. ALL WE CAN OFFER YOU IS OUR IDEAS AND/OR CONCERNS FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION.

IN PREPARATION OF OUR TESTIMONY, I HAVE DONE EXTENSIVE RESEARCH IN THE HISTORY OF THE CURRENT LEGISLATION THAT AFFORDS AMERICAN INDIANS EXEMPTION FROM THE FISH AND GAME LICENSES. I HAVE DONE LEGAL RESEARCH IN THIS AREA OF THE LAW AS WELL AS REVIEWING THE MINUTES OF THE LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS OF 1971, 1973, and 1978 AS IT PERTAINS TO AMERICAN INDIAN EXEMPTION. THIS INCLUDED THE PREVIOUS HOUSE AND SENATE AND RESPECTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES. MY SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION IS THIS: NO WHERE IN THE HISTORY OF THE RESPECTIVE SESSIONS I MENTIONED EARLIER COULD I FIND OPPOSITION TO THIS EXEMPTION. NEITHER FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC OF THE STATE OF KANSAS, NOR THE RESPECTIVE SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES. THE ONLY OPPOSITION WAS FROM THE FISH AND GAME COMMISSION. MY FEELING THAT THERE WAS NO OTHER OPPOSITION

LESLIE "CHICK" HALE
TESTIMONY CONTINUED - PAGE THREE
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BECAUSE OF THE DUE CONSIDERATION OF FEDERAL LAW, TREATY RIGHTS, AND JUST CONSIDERATION FOR A CULTURAL AND TRADITIONAL RESPECT FOR THE AMERICAN INDIANS OF THIS STATE. BY REPEALING EXISTING STATE STATUE THAT AFFORDS EXEMPTION FOR AMERICAN INDIANS FROM THE FISH AND GAME LICENSES WOULD BE BUT A GIANT STEP BACKWARDS IN OUR LEGISLATIVE ENDEAVORS AND IDEAS.

I HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH SENIOR CITIZENS AND TRIBAL MEMBERS OF THE KICKAPOO NATION AT THE INVITATION OF MR. JAMES ABEITA, SUPT., HORTON INDIAN AGENCY, BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AFTER MEETING WITH HIM REGARDING MY CONCERNS. WE BOTH WERE AWARE OF THE SERIOUS CONCERN OF REGARDING THIS MATTER EXPRESSED BY THE TRIBAL MEMBERS THERE AS WELL AS THE OTHER THREE RESERVATIONS IN NORTHEAST KANSAS. I HAVE CONVEYED MY CONCERNS REGARDING HOUSE BILL(S) 2622 TO THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS VIA MR. JAMES ABEITA, SUPT. I ALSO HAVE MET COLLECTIVELY WITH REPRESENTITIVES OF THE FOUR TRIBES IN NORTHEAST KANSAS AND IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT THE CONCENSUS IS THAT THEY ALL OPOSE THIS PROPOSED LEGISLATION AND PREFER THAT IT REMAIN AS IS.

I ANTICIPATE REPRESENTITAVES OF THESE RESPECTIVE TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS TO PRESENT THEIR OPPOSITION TO THIS SPECIAL COMMITTEE. MANY HAVE OFFERED TO SIGN A PETITION IN THIS REGARD, BUT TIME DID NOT PERMIT THIS ENDEAVOR. IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT MR. JAMES ABEITA WAS CALL TO THE AREA OFFICE IN ANADARKO, OKLAHOMA ON BUSINESS BUT HE HAD ASSURED ME THAT HE WOULD DELIGATE A REPRESENTITAVE TO APPEAR BEFORE THIS COMMITTEE ON BEHALF OF THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

REGARDING THE SENIOR CITIZENS, OUR RESPECTED ELDERS, (INDIAN OR NON-INDIAN), WE FEEL THAT WE WOULD BE TAKING ANOTHER STEP BACK IN CONSIDERING REPEALING THEIR EXEMPTION STATUS. WE FEEL THAT THE EXEMPTION STATUE SHOULD REMAIN AS IT CURRENTLY IS. WE

LESLIE "CHICK" HALE
TESTIMONY CONTINUED - PAGE FOUR
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ALL HAVE BEEN REARED WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT ONE SHOULD GIVE A FULL PRODUCTIVE LIFE AND IN RETURN LOOK FORWARD TO JUST BENIFITS EARNED BY CONTRIBUTING TO THE OVER-ALL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THIS COUNTRY INCLUDING THE STATE OF KANSAS. I DO NOT THINK THAT OUR SENIOR CITIZENS, OUR ELDERS WOULD BE ASKING TOO MUCH OF US FOR THIS CONSIDERATION ON THEIR BEHALF. ADDITIONALLY, I WOULD HOPE THAT THE STATE OF KANSAS WOULD WANT TO SET AN EXAMPLE TO OTHER STATE LEGISLATORS IN THIS REGARD. MANY SENIOR CITIZENS, IN FACT ALL THAT I HAVE DISCUSSED THIS PROPOSED LEGISLATION WITH HAVE EXPRESS DISAPPOINTMENT, DISBELIEF, AND IN SOME CASES ANGER BECAUSE OF THE POTENTIAL LOSS OF THIS EXEMPTION. I KNOW THAT I CERTAINLY WOULD WANT SOMETHING TO LOOK FORWARD TO BESIDES A RETIREMENT CHECK. THIS REMINDS ME OF THE HIDDEN BENIFITS THAT ONE WOULD RECEIVE ON THEIR PAY CHECK. FUTHER, I THINK THAT YOU WOULD AGREE WITH ME THAT THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE AFFECTED IS MINIMAL WHEN CONSIDERING REVENUE GENERATED. I WOULD FIND IT EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO TAKE THIS BENIFIT AWAY FROM OUR ELDERS.

AS THIS BILL PERTAINS TO THE YOUNG, 16 YEARS AND UNDER. AGAIN, WE THINK THAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT A MINORITY IN NUMBERS. RIGHT HERE IN TOPEKA, KANSAS CONCERN HAS BEEN EXPRESSED ABOUT REDUCING THE NUMBER OF SCHOOLS BECAUSE IT HAS BEEN AN IDEA THAT THE COST FACTOR IN MAINTAINING THE PRESENT SCHOOLS IN RELATIONSHIP TO THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS THE SCHOOLS WOULD SERVE. IT HAS BEEN INDICATED THERE WOULD LESS STUDENTS IN THE FUTURE. I ONLY MENTION THIS BECAUSE I FEEL THAT IT REFLECTS THE CONCEPT THAT AGAIN, WE ARE CONSIDERING A MINOR NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS. ANOTHER VITAL CONSIDERATION, IF FISH AND GAME LICENSE EXEMPTION WOULD ENCOURAGE MY CHILD TO ENJOY THE RECREATIONAL RESOURCES THAT WE HAVE SO GENEROUSLY PROVIDED FOR BY

LESLIE "CHICK" HALE
TESTIMONY CONTINUED - PAGE FIVE
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PARTICIPATION IN THIS ENDEAVOR, THEN I WOULD MUCH RATHER SEE THIS THEN MY CHILD BE SUBJECT OR ENCOURAGED TO EVILS THAT I DO NOT CARE TO MENTION. PARENTS THAT I HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO TALK TO HAVE EXPRESSED THEIR CONCERN THAT LEGISLATION STAY AS IT CURRENTLY IS.

LASTLY, BUT NOT LEAST, THE ARMED FORCES PERSONNEL. IT IS UNFORTUNATE THE THE HUMAN RACE OF THIS WORLD OF OURS CAN NOT SEE FIT TO REFRAIN FROM THE NEED TO HAVE MILITARY FORCES. BUT, WE MUST FACE REALITY IN THIS REGARD.

KANSAS, FOR THE MOST PART, IS RURAL OR FARM COUNTRY. AND ON THE EXISTING RESERVATIONS, I'VE YET TO SEE A SKY SCRAPER. HOW MANY OF US VETERANS CAN REMEMBER COMING HOME ON LEAVE, GOING OUT AND BRING HOME SOME GAME FOR THE TABLE. SOMETHING THAT WE SELDOM ENJOY, IF ANY, WHILE ON ACTIVE DUTY. GENERALLY, WHEN OUR ARMED FORCES PERSONNEL COME HOME IT IS A HOLIDAY, A TIME WHEN WE MOST ENJOY WILD GAME OTHER THEN FOR CULTURAL AND/OR TRADITIONAL PURPOSES. THE EXEMPTION FOR THE ARMED FORCES PERSONNEL, LIKEWISE WITH OUR ELDERS OR SENIOR CITIZENS, IS A JUSTLY DESERVED AND EARNED BENIFIT. AFTER ALL, THEY ARE CONTRIBUTING THEIR LIFE AND WELFARE FOR THE BENIFIT OF US ALL IN THIS COUNTRY. SURE, PERHAPS THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT MAY OFFER OTHER BENIFITS BUT WHY CAN'T WE OFFER SOMETHING AS WELL. I WONDER HOW MANY ARMED FORCES PERSONNEL ARE NOT AWARE OF THIS LEGISLATION THAT IS BEING PROPOSED AND CONSIDERED. WE STRONGLY URGE THIS COMMITTEE TO NOT PASS HOUSE BILL(S) 2622 AND REPEAL THIS EXEMPTION.

WE HAVE OFFERED TO YOU OUR IDEAS, OUR INPUT, AND EXPRESSED OUR CONCERNS IN OPPOSITION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 2622 AND RELATED BILLS. YES, I REALIZE THAT THE FISH AND GAME COMMISSION MAY BE IN NEED OF REVENUE, BUT WE FEEL THAT THERE ARE OTHER ALTERNATIVES. FOR EXAMPLE, WE ALL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE PRESIDENTS ELECTION CAMPAIN ON OUR FEDERAL INCOME TAX FORM. IT'S VOLUNTARY. I WOULD FIND IT HARD TO

LESLIE "CHICK" HALE
TESTIMONY CONTINUED - PAGE SIX
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OPPOSE THIS CONCEPT. ONE THAT WOULD PERMIT ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS, A CONTRIBUTION
EAR MARKED FOR THE FISH AND GAME COMMISSION. IT IS REALISTIC TO ANTICIPATE
MORE THEN THE \$739,000 MAY BE GENERATED FROM THOSE THAT HAVE PURCHASED LICENSES,
THOSE THAT ARE EXEMPT, AND ALSO THOSE THAT JUST RESPECT NATURE AND PERHAPS HAVE
NEVER OWNED OR APPLIED FOR A KANSAS HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSES.

I WOULD MUCH RATHER FAVOR LEGISLATION THAT WOULD BE INCLUDING US ALL, AS OPPOSED
TO LEGISLATION THAT EXCLUDES A FEW. I THINK THAT THIS IS TRUE EQUITY.

I THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND ATTENTION GIVEN TO MY TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION OF
HOUSE BILL NO. 2622. THIS CONCLUDES MY TESTIMONY.



February 1, 1984

Iowa Tribe of Kansas & Nebraska
P.O. Box 144
Hiawatha, KS 66434

*Received
2/1/84 KCS*

Mr. Leslie "Chick" Hale
Horton, KS 66439

Dear Chick;

The Iowa Tribe strongly opposes the passing of House Bills 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627.

The Iowa Tribe authorizes you to speak on their behalf in opposing the House Bills and also to present the attached Resolution #84-R-12 to any and all parties concerned.

In the interest of Native American Indian people, we support you in your actions to oppose these bills.

Sincerely,

Howard Simmonds
Howard Simmonds, Chairman

HOUSE BILL 2623

Testimony by

Kent Jackson, Assistant Director

Kansas Fish & Game Commission

To House Subcommittee on Energy & Natural Resources

I appear before you today to present views and recommendations relative to House Bill 2623 which provides the Fish & Game Commission with the regulatory authority to establish a fee for a 24-hour fishing license. The Commission endorses this action.

The concept of a 24-hour fishing license is supported by a broad range of interests to include the Kansas Department of Economic Development, Kansas Outdoors Unlimited, the Park and Resources Authority, and the Special Committee on Energy & Natural Resources.

A great number of people pass through the State of Kansas each year to either seek points of interest in the state or while on their way to other destinations. Many services are provided along their way to accommodate them to include food, lodging and the facilities available at our state parks for the camping enthusiasts. It is felt that many of these "travel-through" vacationers can be encouraged to stop and utilize our fisheries resource for a reasonable fee.

License revenue is the major source of funding for Commission operations and does constitute a user-pay system. The revenue contributed by all users pays for enforcement of laws, fish stocking and management programs that are necessary to maintain the state's fishery.

Current fishing license structure available to people fishing Kansas is as follows:

Resident Fishing	\$ 9.00 (+ \$3.00 hatchery fee)	annual sales--301,779
Non-Resident Fishing	\$20.00 (+ \$3.00 hatchery fee)	annual sales-- 13,390
Non-Resident 5-Day Fishing	\$ 9.00 (+ \$3.00 hatchery fee)	annual sales-- 17,171

4.15

2-1-84
Attachment 3

Conditions of the License:

Individuals Eligible: Kansas residents and non-residents currently required by state law to obtain a license for fishing in Kansas.

Cost of the License: \$3 total with \$2 of the \$3 remitted to the fee fund and the remaining \$1 remitted for the Hatchery Fee.

Benefit Summary:

It is anticipated that this "new" license will generate an additional \$30,000 income on a yearly basis to the Commission.

This approach will certainly blend and enhance the tourism promotionals of the Kansas Department of Economic Development, Division of Travel and Tourism and will additionally enhance camper visitation at our state park systems.

There will be a positive impact on local communities and businesses which supply the services and commodities for these individuals.

The current wording of the legislation allows for a maximum fee, to be established by regulation of \$2.00. In order to add flexibility to this structure and allow for future inflationary increases to be added to this particular license, I would recommend an amendment to line 0101 to read "Twenty-four-hour fishing license--not to exceed\$4.00.

ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Room 519-S

TESTIMONY

HB 2623

24 Hour Fishing License

Issuance of licenses and fees therefor

Cathy L. Kruzic, Travel & Tourism Director
Kansas Department of Economic Development

February 1, 1984

2-1-84
Attachment 4

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

As the Director of the Travel and Tourism Division of the Kansas Department of Economic Development, I view House Bill #2623 to be an excellent method of attracting more visitors to the state by allowing the purchase of a "24 hour fishing license."

A great number of weekend visitors from neighboring states come to Kansas to enjoy our fine outdoor recreation facilities. This bill would certainly enhance our ability to attract even more. In the past, our office has received many comments from visitors in the state and potential visitors to the state indicating that they would be more willing to purchase a fishing license of shorter duration and less cost than they would to purchase an annual permit.

In making this provision, we are of course encouraging increased visitation to the state, and also encouraging visitors to stay longer through the discovery of fishing opportunities. It often happens visitors may end up at one of our states' fine lakes and parks (with no particular intention of fishing) when faced with the necessity to purchase a permit for the entire year when really only wanting to "wet a line" and relax. Many visitors are unlikely to invest in that purchase. Given the option to purchase a "24 hour fishing license" will certainly answer some of their needs and also provide some additional revenue to the state that otherwise might be lost. It is also important to mention that this will leave a better impression in the minds of visitors of our willingness to accommodate them with special licenses instead of presenting them with the temptation to fish illegally for just that short hour or so..

The Kansas Travel and Tourism Division has encouraged the Kansas Fish and Game Commission to adopt such a fishing license for the past several years and we are extremely pleased about the cooperation between the two agencies. It appears that Kansans are surprised to learn that we attract many visitors from other states to enjoy our outdoor resources, but in fact this is a major drawing card for tourists, particularly during the summer months. The Travel and Tourism Division intends to continue to work cooperatively with the Kansas Fish and Game Commission in many activities, including the ability to make both fishing and hunting licenses more easily available to visitors. It is a goal of ours to establish a fine reputation as a state with excellent opportunities to the outdoorsman.

I strongly urge you to support House Bill #2623, allowing the issuance of "24 hour fishing licenses" for both non-resident and residents.