

Approved Ivan Sand
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The meeting was called to order by REPRESENTATIVE IVAN SAND at
Chairperson

1:30 ~~xxx~~/p.m. on MARCH 20, 1984 in room 521-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

- Representative Elizabeth Baker (Excused)
- Representative Robert D. Miller (Excused)

Committee staff present:

- Mike Heim, Legislative Research Department
- Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes Office
- Gloria Leonhard, Secretary to the Committee

Conferees appearing before the committee:

- Senator Norma Daniels, SB 349
- Ms. Marjorie Van Buren, Office of Judicial Administration, SB 349
- Mr. Jerry Slaughter, Kansas Medical Society, SB 349
- Senator Nancy Parrish, SB 679
- Major Don Demore, Topeka Police Department, SB 679
- Representative Richard L. Harper, HB 3106

Chairman, Ivan Sand, called for hearings on the following Senate and House Bills:

SB 349, concerning district and deputy district coroners; relating to compensation and expenses; - By Committee on Judiciary

Mike Heim, Staff, gave a brief overview of the bill. (See Supplemental Note on Substitute for SB 349 -- Attachment I.)

Senator Norma Daniels appeared to give background and intent of SB 349. Daniels urged the Committee to consider replacing stricken language in the bill to restore fees for services of district coroners. Daniels pointed out that her husband is district coroner for Sedgwick County, Kansas, that the intent of the bill was to bring fair and equitable salaries across the state; that the whole system is run on a voluntary basis; that the county commissioners are questioning the rates; that coroners do not have time to negotiate with county commissioners; that it might be more feasible to add some kind of language that would allow county commissioners to adjust stated salaries; that Lines 81 through 84 need to be left in.

When questioned, Daniels stated that the charge for an autopsy in Sedgwick County is approximately \$245 and is set by the county commissioners; that a forensic pathologist often does an autopsy rather than the district coroner; that in Sedgwick County there are 10 to 12 cases a month where a person is brought in from another county and dies in Sedgwick County; that Daniels would agree to reinserting all stricken language and then add a provision that the Boards of County Commissioners may fix salaries in excess; that more consideration needs to be given to what is fair and equitable; that Daniels has had calls from approximately 30 coroners about the problem addressed by SB 349.

A question was raised about the repealer statutes. Mike Heim, Staff, briefly reviewed provisions of KSA 19-1027 and 28-111.

One suggestion was to wait for awhile and find out what is right and wrong in the bill. Senator Daniels pointed out that the last amendment proposed by the bill is badly needed.

Ms. Marjorie Van Buren, Office of Judicial Administration, Kansas Judicial Branch, appeared to testify in support of SB 349. (See Attachment II.)

Mr. Jerry Slaughter, representing the Kansas Medical Society, appeared and stated that his group is in full support of Senator Daniel's testimony.

Unless specifically noted, the individual remarks recorded herein have not been transcribed verbatim. Individual remarks as reported herein have not been submitted to the individuals appearing before the committee for editing or corrections.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT,
room 521-S, Statehouse, at 1:30 XX a.m./p.m. on MARCH 20, 1984

Chairman Sand informed the Committee that Mr. Fred Allen, Kansas Assn. of Counties, had indicated to Sand that there is no statewide stand on this matter.

Chairman Sand asked Staff to work with Mr. Jerry Slaughter to try to set out feasible language for SB 349 and bring it back to the Committee as soon as possible so that it might be passed out of Committee this Session.

The hearing on SB 349 was closed.

SB 679, concerning certain cities and counties; relating to the acquisition of motor vehicles.

Mike Heim, Staff, gave a brief overview of the bill. (See Supplemental Note on SB 679 -- Attachment III.)

Senator Nancy Parrish, sponsor of the bill, appeared to give background and intent of the bill. Parrish stated that the bill requires the State Director of Purchasing to allow consolidation of purchases of motor vehicles for the City of Topeka and County of Shawnee with purchases for State agencies; that the bill had been requested by the Purchasing Director for Shawnee County and the Topeka Police Department.

Parrish stated that she would like to see this legislation used as a pilot program and maybe later expanded to other counties.

Major Don Demore, Topeka Police Department, appeared to testify in support of the bill. (See Attachment IV.) Mr. Robert F. Kelley, Shawnee County Purchasing Director, provided written statement. (See Attachment V.) It was noted that there are intergovernmental cooperation bills in effect at the present time which are very adequate bills. The question was raised as to why SB 679 is needed.

Senator Parrish explained that the Director of Purchasing had not been cooperative, possibly because of the fear that it would not work if every city and county did this.

It was pointed out that Shawnee County Intergovernmental Coordinator, Darold Main, and Topeka Mayor Wright both support this concept of purchasing.

One suggestion was to change the word "shall" to "will" in Section 1.

It was noted that although SB 679 might not be needed, it will give the Director of Purchases more incentive to work with the other units of government.

The hearing on SB 679 was closed.

HB 3106, authorizing hospital district No. 1, Linn and Bourbon counties to enter into a contract to borrow money for the purpose of building an addition to an existing home for the aged; placing certain conditions upon such contract. -By Committee on Federal and State Affairs

Representative Richard L. Harper, a sponsor of the bill, appeared to give background and intent of the bill. Harper stated that the bill was requested because a reputable nursing home at Prescott, Kansas, with a long waiting list, needs to expand its facility; that the bill gives the Board of Directors of Hospital District No. 1 the authority to contract with other individuals to borrow money to build the needed 10-room addition to the nursing home.

It was noted that this legislation will bypass "The Certificate of Need."

Representative George R. Dean moved and Representative Clinton C. Acheson seconded that HB 3106 be passed and placed on the Consent Calendar. Motion carried.

The minutes of the meeting of March 14, 1984, were approved as Page 2 of 2 submitted.

Meeting adjourned.

SESSION OF 1983

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON
SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 349

As Recommended by Senate Committee on Judiciary

Brief of Bill*

Substitute for S.B. 349 amends K.S.A. 19-1028 dealing with compensation for district coroners and their deputies. The bill provides the compensation, mileage, and expenses of coroners and their deputies shall be set by the board or boards of county commissioners in the judicial district. The bill also clarifies that mileage, expenses, and compensation of coroners and their deputies shall not be charged to the annual district court operating budget. Two other statutes dealing with coroners' salaries, fees, and mileage are repealed.

Background

The bill was supported by the Judicial Administrator's Office. Counties are responsible for funding the coroner's office and the annual district court operating budget. S.B. 349 as introduced would have required coroner's reports be filed with the county or district attorney instead of with the clerk of the district court. The County and District Attorney's Association opposed this change.

* Bill briefs are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent.



State of Kansas

Office of Judicial Administration

Kansas Judicial Center
301 West 10th
Topeka, Kansas 66612

(913) 296-2256

March 20, 1984

TESTIMONY ON

SUB. SENATE BILL 349

Marjorie Van Buren
Office of Judicial Administration
Kansas Judicial Branch

We requested last year that legislation be introduced to amplify K.S.A. 20-162(b), which states that coroners are not part of the unified court personnel system.

A few boards of county commissioners continue to charge coroner compensation and expenses to the district court operating budget. Sub. SB 349 addresses this concern of clerks and administrators by specifying that coroners' fees, expenses, and compensation are not to be charged to the district court operating budget.

This bill received favorable consideration by this committee last session but was not acted upon by the full House. I would urge you to recommend it favorably once again.

(ATTACHMENT II)

SESSION OF 1984

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 679

As Recommended by Senate Committee on
Governmental Organization

Brief of Bill*

S.B. 679 provides that purchases of motor vehicles by the State Division of Purchases could include purchase orders from the city of Topeka and the county of Shawnee upon request of the local governing bodies.

Background

Consolidated purchases of vehicles for state and local agencies would lower the costs paid by local units of government, according to conferees.

* Bill briefs are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent.

(ATTACHMENT III)

MARCH 20, 1984

TO: HOUSE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

Not unlike most units of government, we find our dollars buying less and less. Price comparisons of like-models with like-equipped vehicles made evident the need for discount volume purchasing where feasible.

State purchases of vehicles for the KANSAS HIGHWAY PATROL, compared to the CITY OF TOPEKA police vehicles, ranged in price from \$400.00 to \$1,600.00 per unit, with little (if any) exception to the State specifications. While these figures represent only police-type vehicles, they no doubt would apply to all vehicles.

A meeting with Representatives of the STATE DIVISION OF PURCHASING, the KANSAS HIGHWAY PATROL, SHAWNEE COUNTY and the CITY OF TOPEKA, resulted in the conclusion that this cooperative purchasing venture was of benefit to all concerned.

This will obviously impact the STATE PURCHASING DIVISION, and to minimize this impact, we pledge ourselves to meet time schedules for bid dates, with specifications that meet those set by the State, with only the slightest modification when necessary.

Thank you for this opportunity to express our viewpoint.

Submitted by:

(ATTACHMENT IV)

Major Don Demore
TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT

SENATE BILL #679

STATEMENT FROM MR. ROBERT F. KELLEY,
PURCHASING DIRECTOR, SHAWNEE COUNTY

THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS MY VIEWS AND OPINIONS PURSUANT TO SENATE BILL #679. FIRST OF ALL, I WISH TO STATE THAT I WHOLEHEARTEDLY CONCUR WITH AND FULLY ENDORSE THE PROVISIONS OF THIS BILL. WE IN SHAWNEE COUNTY GOVERNMENT WOULD BE TOTALLY REMISS IF WE SHOULD FAIL TO PURSUE ANY AND ALL OPPORTUNITIES FOR REDUCING COSTS OF OUR MAJOR VEHICLE PURCHASES. TO ALLOW SHAWNEE COUNTY TO CONSOLIDATE ITS MOTOR VEHICLE REQUIREMENTS WITH THOSE OF THE STATE OF KANSAS OFFERS SUCH AN OPPORTUNITY. SHAWNEE COUNTY, LIKE THE TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT, BASICALLY UTILIZES THE STATE HIGHWAY PATROL VEHICLE SPECIFICATIONS FOR OUR SHERIFF DEPARTMENT PATROL CARS. LIKEWISE, SHAWNEE COUNTY WILL ACCEPT THE BASIC STATE SPECIFICATIONS FOR OTHER TYPES OF VEHICLES. IN ADDITION, SHAWNEE COUNTY WILL INDEED ABIDE BY THE ESTABLISHED STATE PURCHASING POLICIES, ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES, AND WILL FULLY COMPLY WITH ALL SUSPENSE DATES FOR INPUT AS MAY BE PRESCRIBED BY THE STATE. SHAWNEE COUNTY ALSO AGREES TO ASSIST THE STATE WITH ANY ATTENDANT WORKLOAD THAT MAY EVOLVE FROM THIS CONSOLIDATION IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE ANY IMPACT ON THE STATE PURCHASING OFFICE. ALL OF THESE FOREGOING STATEMENTS AND COMMITMENTS WERE PRESENTED VERBALLY TO THE STATE DIRECTOR OF PURCHASES AT A FEBRUARY 15, 1984 MEETING. IN SUMMARY, IF THIS CONSOLIDATION BECOMES A REALITY, SIGNIFICANT SAVINGS IN THE PURCHASE PRICE OF VEHICLES AND A MORE ORDERLY BIDDING PROCESS CAN BE ACHIEVED. INASMUCH AS ALL THREE UNITS OF GOVERNMENT ARE LOCATED IN THE TOPEKA AREA, THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SUCH A CONSOLIDATION SHOULD BE A SMOOTH AND ORDERLY PROCESS. SHAWNEE COUNTY STANDS READY TO DO ITS PART TO ENSURE A SUCCESSFUL CONSOLIDATION.