

MINUTES OF THE Senate COMMITTEE ON Energy and Natural Resources

The meeting was called to order by Senator Charlie L. Angell at
Chairperson

8:00 a.m./~~xxx~~ on Tuesday, March 20, 1984 in room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator Bert Chaney
Senator Paul Hess

Committee staff present:

Ramon Powers, Research Department
Don Hayward, Revisor's Office
LaVonne Mumert, Secretary to the Committee

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Representative Kathryn Sughrue
Representative Mike Hayden
Representative Clint Acheson
Ray Frye, Shawnee County Hunter Safety Instructors
Butch Harrison, Shawnee County Safe Hunters Association

Senator Werts moved that the minutes of the March 15, 1984 meeting be approved. Senator Roitz seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

H.B. 2624 - Fish and game: increase in certain fishing and hunting licenses. Re Proposal No. 22

Representative Kathryn Sughrue explained that she was appearing in support of the bill because the amendment she made is essentially all that is left in the bill. The bill provides that institutions under the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services can purchase an institutional fishing license at a cost of \$100 annually that will permit a maximum of 20 persons to fish. Staff advised that the \$100 would not be taken out of the budgets of the agencies but would be paid by an inmate fund.

H.B. 2724 - Fish and game: firearm competency and safety certificates

Representative Mike Hayden described the history of the hunter safety program. He said that last year the Legislature passed into law the requirement that only persons under the age of 18 years would be required to carry their hunter safety certificate while hunting. Representative Hayden said the hunter safety program is an excellent program with 3,000 volunteers who teach the course. H.B. 2724 requires that persons under the age of 30 must carry the certificate in their possession while they are hunting and that the Kansas Fish and Game Commission will establish rules and regulations to issue duplicate certificates. Senator Roitz asked about the decision to make the age limit 30 years. Representative Hayden responded that the age of 30 was a compromise between Fish and Game, the House Energy Committee and people involved in the hunter safety program. Answering a question from Senator Roitz, Representative Hayden advised that formerly there was a place on the hunting license itself for the hunter safety certificate number, but the problem with this is that the person issuing the license ends up being responsible for enforcing the law. He pointed out that game wardens are the law enforcers when the certificate is required to actually be in the possession of the hunter.

Representative Clint Acheson testified in support of the bill. He said that hunter safety instructors felt that they had not had "their day in court" when the law was passed last year. Representative Acheson pointed out that one of the benefits of the course has been increased cooperation between landowners and hunters.

Ray Frye spoke in support of the bill. He voiced concerns that hunters are no longer required to show proof that they have completed a hunter safety course but yet it is required by law that they complete the course. He said the age of 30 years includes the 20-30 age bracket which statistics show as having the most hunting accidents.

Butch Harrison testified in support of H.B. 2724. He said he was also speaking for the Wichita Association of Safe Hunters. He mentioned that many instructors were very irate about the law change passed last year because they felt they had not been consulted. Answering a question from Senator Roitz, Mr. Harrison said he would be agreeable to the law reverting back to the way it was originally. He stressed that they feel the age of

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.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE Senate COMMITTEE ON Energy and Natural Resources,
room 123-S, Statehouse, at 8:00 a.m./~~xxx~~ on Tuesday, March 20, 1984

18 is too young to not be required to carry a certificate.

S.B. 821 - Issuance of hunting, fishing and furharvester licenses by persons appointed by
Kansas fish and game commission

Staff explained that the bill simply allows the Fish and Game Commission to appoint agents
to sell licenses as county clerks are able to do.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 a.m. by the Chairman. The next meeting of the Committee
will be at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 21, 1984.