

Approved

Stephen R. Cloud 3-29-85
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

The meeting was called to order by Representative Stephen R. Cloud at
Chairperson

9:09 a.m. ~~PM~~ on Tuesday, March 26, 1985 in room 522-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Vice Chairperson Barr - Excused

Representative Brown - Excused

Committee staff present:

Avis Swartzman - Revisor

Carolyn Rampey - Legislative Research Dept.

Jackie Breymeyer - Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Larry Wolgast, Secretary, Department of Human Resources

Ray Petty, Legislative Liaison, Advisory Committee on Employment of the Handicapped

Jamie Schwartz, Secretary, Department of Economic Development

The meeting of the Governmental Organization Committee was called to order at 9:09 a.m. by Representative Stephen R. Cloud, Chairman. The March 19 minutes were approved. March 21 minutes were distributed. The agenda began with SB 79, continuing department and office of secretary of human resources.

Secretary Wolgast stated that he had been meeting with the subcommittee for a long time and supports the bill. Representative Hassler, Chairperson of that subcommittee, will speak Thursday, when the subcommittee report is presented. The chairman stated that he anticipates final action on this bill Thursday. As there was no other person present to speak to the bill, the chairman declared that the hearing on SB 79 was ended.

The committee next took up SB 335, concerning membership of the committee on employment of the handicapped. Ray Petty, Legislative Liaison, Advisory Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, directed attention to the balloon copy of SB 335, which contained several amendments. He passed over Section 1, stating that it would be easier to understand if he came back to it later. He went to line 59 on page 2, stating that this line was not necessary if four members will be appointed by legislative leadership. The other amendment on page 2 dealt with reducing from nine to eight the number of committee members who are to be disabled Kansans. He mentioned mandating certain programs instead of having to select people from specific geographic areas.

The chairman asked Mr. Petty to pause while he made a few general comments. He told the committee that this bill as originally drafted was amended by the Senate committee, with further amendments by the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Petty's amendments will make for three sets of amendments needed to be walked through. Mr. Petty replied that with the Committee of the Whole's amendments being of a conceptual nature, there was no chance to study the bill thoroughly.

Mr. Petty introduced Martha Gabehart and Sheli Buck, who are also associated with the Advisory Committee for the Employment of the Handicapped. He also explained that the Executive Secretary is Michael Lachner, who has been incapacitated for some time but will be back on the job in April.

Mr. Petty explained that the committee is not fee funded, but would like to collect fees for such things as accessibility surveys, where buildings are checked out and to recoup money for conferences. He mentioned that K.S.A. 0374-6701 will either have to be struck or maintained depending on the way in which the bill is amended.

As there was no one else to speak to the bill, the chairman stated that this concluded the hearing on SB 335.

The committee took up SB 80, continuing department and office of secretary of economic development. Jamie Schwartz, Secretary, Department of Economic Development, asked the committee to please pass the bill. He said he would be glad to respond to any questions the committee might have. The chairman asked Mr. Schwartz to elaborate on the CDBG, or, Community Development Block Grant program.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION,
room 522-S, Statehouse, at 9:09 a.m./~~p.m.~~ on Tuesday, March 26, 1985

Mr. Schwartz said that this is one of the programs of the new federalism that has really taken off. It is funded through the federal department of Housing and Urban Development, or HUD. Kansas assumed the administration of the program in 1984. There is an entitlement program for larger cities such as Wichita, Kansas City, Kansas, Topeka, Lawrence, Olathe, Overland Park, and Leavenworth. These cities receive "X" amount of dollars based on several criteria. The grant programs take in three areas; community improvement, economic development and a discretionary program. Mr. Schwartz mentioned the various places in which the money has gone. \$16.8 million dollars was allocated for these grant programs. In the entitlement category, \$38 million dollars has been allocated.

Mr. Schwartz mentioned a meeting being held today at the Ramada Inn, the purpose of which is to discuss proposals and rules under which the 1985 program will be functioning.

One of the committee members explained the problem with smaller cities that are located close to a larger population area such as Wichita. Discussion took in median income criteria which favors the smaller or 'poorer' cities, and the low/moderate income situation and how it affects the statistics and figures which are used by the KDED.

It was mentioned that 65% of funds had been put into the Southeast Kansas area and the present concern with respect to the program as far as administering funds to the small communities with equity.

Mr. Schwartz explained that HUD gives great latitude in the design of a program, but practically none in the implementation thereof.

Mr. Schwartz ended his talk and the chairman stated that this ended the hearing on SB 80.

The chairman announced the subcommittees still working on reports would meet tomorrow. These reports would be given Thursday, along with final action on bills that were heard today.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:47a.m.

