

R.H. 2-27-86

MINUTES OF THE House COMMITTEE ON ElectionsThe meeting was called to order by Representative Richard L. Harper at
Chairperson9:00 am a.m./p.m. on Tuesday, February 25, 1986 in room 521-S of the Capitol.All members were present except: Representative Kline, ExcusedCommittee staff present: Myrta Anderson, Legislative Research Department
Mary Hack, Revisor of Statutes' Office
Nancy Spillman, Secretary of State's Office
Dottie Musselman, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Eric Rucker, Republican State Committee Headquarters
Janet Kuhlman, County Clerk, Scott County, Scott City

Chairperson Harper called the meeting to order.

HB 2893, An Act relating to political parties; concerning the membership of state party committees, was first on the agenda for hearing today. Eric Rucker, Republican State Committee Headquarters, was recognized by the Chairperson at this time. Mr. Rucker explained to the committee that HB 2893 simply adds one more individual to the state executive committee of each of the political parties. This bill did come as a request of the Kansas Federation of Republican Women.

As there were no questions, the hearing was closed on HB 2893.

HB 2919, by Representative Guldner, was next on the agenda for hearing. This bill is An Act concerning elections; relating to delivery of mail ballots. It was noted by the Chairperson that Representative Guldner was unable to be present this morning due to a funeral. At this time, Janet Kuhlman, County Clerk, Scott County, was recognized by the Chairperson. Ms. Kuhlman gave the committee a brief explanation of this bill, saying the change was important, but a small change. On line 0036, adding "it may be", and on line 0037, adding "delivered by the elector or his designee", and deleting the wording on line 0037 "deliver the ballot."

Following much discussion, it was the consensus of Representative Wilbert that this bill was not really needed. As there were no more questions at this time the hearing was closed on HB 2919.

HB 2920, An Act concerning elections; relating to absentee ballots, was next on the agenda. Ms. Kuhlman took the floor again and gave the committee a briefing of this bill. The change in this bill is as follows -- line 0035, deleting "All absentee ballots shall be consecutively numbered, and the ballot shall bear the same number as the ballot." On line 0051 adding "In counties having election commissioners, all absentee ballots shall be consecutively numbered, and the ballot envelope for each ballot shall bear the same number as the ballot."

Following a discussion, it was noted that the County Clerk's Association should be notified, and that the committee should find out what position they take on HB 2920. Chairperson Harper told the committee they would be contacted and that more discussion would be held on HB 2919 and HB 2920, thus giving Representative Guldner, author of both bills, a chance to give the committee his concern and intent of these bills.

SB 466, An Act concerning elections; relating to ballot forms, which was heard on a previous day, was now the next order of business. A memorandum from the Secretary of State's Office, covering a survey of all 105 county election officials in the state of Kansas, concerning putting the name of a candidate's city on the county ballot, was passed to committee members.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House COMMITTEE ON Elections,
room 521-S, Statehouse, at 9:00 am a.m./p.m. on Tuesday, February 25, 1986.

At this time Representative Foster raised the question as to why the 4 larger counties were opposed to putting the name of a candidate's city on the county ballot. It was the decision of the committee to defer taking action on SB 466 until it could be found out what the reason is for the 4 larger counties being opposed to this.

It was moved by Representative Crumbaker to accept the minutes of the February 20th meeting. Seconded by Representative Knopp. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.