

Approved

RLH 2-19-87
Date

MINUTES OF THE House COMMITTEE ON Elections

The meeting was called to order by Representative Richard L. Harper at
Chairperson

9:00 am a.m./p.m. on Tuesday, February 17, 1987 in room 521-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative Jenkins, excused; Representative King, excused; Representative Littlejohn, excused; Representative Russell, excused; and, Representative Sawyer, excused.

Committee staff present: Myrta Anderson, Legislative Research Department
Nancy Ryan, Secretary of State's Office
Ron Thornburgh, Secretary of State's Office
Jill Wolters, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Dottie Musselman, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Representative Helgerson

Chairperson Harper called the meeting to order. The Chair announced the first order of business for the day as HB 2267. This bill is an act providing for the copies of registration records, by Representative Helgerson.

Representative Helgerson came before the committee to give them a briefing of the change in legislation pertaining to HB 2267. This bill simply would allow any person to make a written request for a copy of the records at any time except on any election day, therefore deleting "during the twenty (20) days immediately preceeding." Also, the election officer shall provide such copies to the person within 10 days following the request if so requested.

A question arose from a committee member about the thinking of the county clerks on the change in this bill. At this time, Ron Thornburgh, Secretary of State's Office, stood to tell the committee that his office had contacted a number of the county clerks, and they had no problems concerning the changes in HB 2267.

Following a discussion period, the hearing was closed on HB 2267.

Chairperson Harper again recognized Representative Helgerson, author of HB 2268, which is an act relating to absentee voting.

The Representative told the committee that this bill had come up because of an individual in his district who had a similar problem. It was a elderly individual who takes care of a handicapped spouse. They are provided under law, the opportunity of getting an absentee ballot for their spouse that is permanently disabled, but since they have to provide continual care for their spouse, it is very difficult for them to leave and go vote. They have the option, if they request, of stating either that they are going to be out of the county on election day, and getting an absentee ballot, or, they themselves are sick and getting an absentee ballot. The Representative told the committee that the laws we now have make it so that if a person is caring for a handicapped elderly individual that requires almost 24 hour supervision, you have to find someone to come into your home to take care of that particular person so that you can go out and vote. That individual may be able to vote, but you are not able to. The intent of these changes was made for the immediate family, as specified, wife, mother, father, brother, sister, grandson, granddaughter, niece or nephew, so that they could obtain an absentee ballot for themselves allowing them to vote also.

As there were no questions on HB 2268, the hearing closed.

It was moved by Representative Johnson to accept and approve the minutes of the February 10, 1987, meeting as written. Seconded by Representative Larkin. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

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.