

Approved March 22, 1988
Date

MINUTES OF THE Senate COMMITTEE ON Agriculture

The meeting was called to order by Senator Allen at
Chairperson

10:09 a.m./~~XXX~~ on March 21, 1988 in room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present ~~except~~

Committee staff present: Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department
Jill Wolters, Revisor of Statutes Department

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Senator Allen called the committee to order and called for action on committee minutes.

Senator Arasmith made a motion the committee minutes of March 16 and 17 stand approved. Senator Gordon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Chairman called for committee discussion on SB 727 and the discussion included:

Maybe in time a bill such as SB 727 will pass but this is not the time; this bill should just stay in committee.

If there are not enough votes to pass the bill just let it lie for another year.

The feeling that the issues of this bill were such that thought it would gather support for passage. The feeling that not letting DeKalb expand is the biggest problem with not passing the bill.

That by not passing this bill we are keeping DeKalb from filling orders for our sister state in China where we have been encouraging and helping them increase their swine production.

The question was asked if SB 727 is not passed will money still be appropriated for a Swine Center of Excellence, and should or would it help if the committee made a recommendation stating support for a Swine Center of Excellence.

It was stated that Kansas State had no plans to request money for a Swine Center of Excellence and that the Department of Agriculture is always the last to get any appropriations.

It was stated that felt the Center of Excellence could provide much technology but doubt was expressed that small hog producer would ever get any of the information.

Disappointment was expressed over some of the accusations made about certain people and organizations over the issues of SB 727. Admiration was expressed for organizations that took a stand which in turn caused much criticism to be expressed about them.

Statement was made wondering why, if nothing else, DeKalb could not be allowed to expand.

It was stated that each exception passed involving the corporate farm law makes small farmers feel they are losing and that those who want to protect the family farmer see this legislation as being against family farmers.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE Senate COMMITTEE ON Agriculture,
room 423-S, Statehouse, at 10:09 a.m. ~~p.m.~~ on March 21, 1988

The statement was made that did not feel this legislation was against small farmer and that some small farmers would be helped by this legislation. Also reminded the committee that DeKalb sells their breeder stock internationally and that did not feel their swine would be or are in competition with Kansas small producer swine.

It was stated that DeKalb's extra swine are sold at same markets as the small producers so that their breeder culls are competition for Kansas small swine producers.

It was stated that the culls from DeKalb are in small enough numbers that they are not competition for small producers.

An explanation of line 211 of SB 727 was explained to be included so that a processor could not get into the production side of swine business. Staff explained that the new section 5 of the bill clarifies the law so that a corporation may contract a farmer to raise pigs and that wording will eliminate the problem the Attorney General had.

Statement was made that the issue of this bill has become a political issue but that this bill provides a chance to help some small agriculture people in the state and the committee is saying no. Feels that by not passing this legislation that more young people will be leaving our state for employment somewhere else.

Staff explained that as it is now DeKalb cannot buy, rent or lease more land at Plains.

It was stated that constituents do not like contract part of the corporate farm law; and the question was asked if a corporation out of state contracts with a Kansas farmer and at the time of sale the check is mailed to the corporation out of state does that corporation pay Kansas income tax on that money.

It was agreed that small swine producers of Kansas could produce breeding stock but that small farmers are not involved enough to get into the complicated issue of selling internationally. Also, that, by some of the testimony, feels some have been misinformed about the issues.

It was expressed that the committee was not to just agree about issue of DeKalb but to discuss whether to allow big corporations into our state or not. That no advantage is seen for letting corporations into the state and that DeKalb might be benefited by this legislation but that DeKalb is not the whole state. Also, if we allow corporations to do everything then small towns are going to dry up.

Senator Doyen made a motion the committee adjourn. Senator Montgomery seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Chairman adjourned the committee at 10:48 a.m.

