

Approved Thomas F. Walker
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

The meeting was called to order by Representative Thomas F. Walker at
Chairperson

9:05 a.m./p.m. on Tuesday, March 13, 1990 in room 522-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Brown - Excused

Committee staff present:

Avis Swartzman - Revisor
Carolyn Rampey - Legislative Research
Jackie Brey Meyer - Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Neil Woerman, Chief of Staff, Attorney General's office
David Haury, Assistant Director, Kansas State Historical Society
Don Jacka, Assistant Secretary, Kansas State Board of Agriculture

Chairman Walker called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. He welcomed the committee back to take up Senate bills.

SB 358 - Assistant Attorney General in office of State Fire Marshal

Carolyn Rampey, Legislative Research, gave background on the bill. The bill was introduced during the 1989 session. The Attorney General provides legal services for a number of state agencies. The bill originally created an Assistant Attorney General in the State Fire Marshal's office and the Kansas Highway Patrol. The Senate amended the bill to delete the Kansas Highway Patrol. The Assistant Attorney General is physically located in the State Fire Marshal's office. What the bill would do is take the position out of the Attorney General's budget and require that the Assistant Attorney General be paid from the State Fire Marshal's budget. This is an attempt to try and get some consistency in a number of agencies who have as counsel Assistant Attorney Generals.

Ms. Rampey was asked who would make the appointment. The reply was that the Attorney General would make the appointment with the approval of the State Fire Marshal. This is not really a unique situation in that a number of state agencies have Assistant Attorney Generals in offices.

Neil Woerman, Chief of State, Attorney General's Office, spoke to the bill. He said it was, "six of one-a half-dozen of another". He stressed the consistency point. The dollars should be spent in the areas where the work is occurring. The adjustment would be made in the omnibus bill. Mr. Woerman said there were two Assistant Attorney General's in the ABC agency of the Department of Revenue, two on the racing commission, one with the lottery, and one with the KBI, a sub-agency of the Attorney General's office. He reiterated that from their standpoint, it doesn't make a whole lot of difference except from the consistency viewpoint.

Mr. Woerman was asked what counsel does in the Fire Marshal's office. The reply was to provide legal council, assist in arson investigation, etc. There are approximately twenty-five Assistant Attorney Generals. These persons work in situations of only a short time to long-term situations.

Mr. Woerman was asked if Marshall Crowthers, K.P.E.R.S. still maintained his appointment since moving to the head of this office. It was decided that he probably did maintain it. One of the reasons the Highway Patrol is no longer a part of the bill is because there was not the full time work there and the governor's office did not support it. It was pointed out that a number of agencies have their own attorneys; S.R.S., and Department of Revenue to name two. Usually agencies appoint the counsel for civil work and criminal comes from the Attorney General's office.

Mr. Woerman ended by saying that when the position is reduced, the appropriation is also reduced. Chairman Walker closed the hearing on SB 358.
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 HOUSE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION,

room 522-S Statehouse, at 9:05 a.m./p.m. on Tuesday, March 13, 1990

SB 502 - publications provided to State Historical Society

David Haury, Assistant Director, Kansas State Historical Society, handed out copies of his testimony (Attachment 1) and explained how the bill would benefit the Society. The bill would reduce from thirty to ten the numbers of copies the Historical Society would receive. Agencies exempted from using the state printer would be required to deliver their publications directly to the Society. Current practice only ensures that state printer publications are received. The bill would have a slight cost savings impact. Storage space requirements will be somewhat reduced. It will also reduce printing bills for other agencies.

Mr. Haury was asked about receipt of materials not done by the state printer. He said the Historical Society really doesn't know what they are missing in terms of what goes out. Sections 1 and 2 of the bill were commented on.

Seeing no other conferees, the Chairman closed the hearing on the bill.

SB 505 - concerning the state board of agriculture

Don Jacka, Assistant Secretary, Kansas State Board of Agriculture, appeared on the bill. He distributed copies of his testimony. (Attachment 2) The two things the bill does is to clean up language dealing with staggered elections of Board Members and removing the amount of limitation on funds that can be spent on the Annual Meeting. Mr. Jacka went through some history and background of the Board and expenses. The Board has tried not to pay honorariums to speakers, but travel and subsistence has to be paid. Testimony ended by stating that the \$10,000 limit is an inhibition to the continuation of top quality meetings for Kansans and Kansas agriculture. The Board asks that the limitation of expenditure be removed from enabling legislation and the cost of the Annual Meeting be controlled by the budget process instead.

Mr. Jacka was asked about delegates to the annual meeting, Board makeup and dues. He stated the Board meets on a quarterly basis by statute and at call of the President and Secretary. Mr. Jacka was asked to provide a list of expenses included in the last two annual meetings. Mr. Jacka told of last years meeting theme, "Agriculture in the Environment". He told of many members of the federal government who had been in attendance. These people don't need to be paid, but when people from private business appear, if they are well-known speakers, they have to be paid. These are not entertaining type speakers. Mr. Jacka was asked about language on page two dealing with successors being elected or qualified. Mr. Jacka deferred to the Revisor, Avis, who stated this was standard language in many bills. Mr. Jacka was asked to provide a list of farm organizations that make up the formal Board. Mr. Jacka was asked if the formal meeting is advertised for election of district people. He said this is a different concept. Members of farm organizations elect from within their organizations. The board of twelve members appoints the Secretary of Agriculture. The Secretary is a member of the governor's cabinet. Since 1978 the Secretary has served on the cabinet by custom. Mr. Jacka was asked the logic of dividing the state into six districts. He replied it used to be related to congressional districts. In 1982 or 1983 it was "reshuffled" based on the number of farmers per district.

Mr. Jacka stated that he would have the several requests for information available to the committee as soon as possible.

The hearing on SB 505 was closed.

The meeting was adjourned.

13 March 1990

SB 502

I am David Haury, Assistant Director of the Kansas State Historical Society, and am here today to review the background and justification for SB 502.

This bill amends the statute which requires that every state agency deliver 30 copies of its publications to the Historical Society. The bill reduces this requirement from 30 to 10. It also stipulates that agencies exempted from using the state printer are required to deliver their publications directly to the Society. The current mechanism ensures receipt only of items printed by the state printer.

In early years Kansas publications were widely exchanged for materials from other states and 30 copies were useful. However, the types of materials used for such exchanges and the mechanism for exchanges are more limited today, and 10 copies will suffice.

The bill will have a slight cost savings impact on both the Society and other agencies. It will somewhat reduce our storage space requirements by eliminating the need to keep excess copies which were not exchanged, and it will reduce the printing bills for other agencies.

Attachment 1
G. O.
3/13/90

TESTIMONY ON

SENATE BILL NO. 505

by

DON JACKA, ASSISTANT SECRETARY
KANSAS STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

to the

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

13 March 1990

Attachment 21
H.O.
3/13/90

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, it's my pleasure to come before you to testify in favor of Senate Bill 505, an act concerning the Kansas State Board of Agriculture.

There are two provisions within this Act. The first is to clean up some language that is no longer needed on page two regarding staggered elections of Board Members. The second item is the removing of the amount of limitation on the funds that can be expended on the Annual Meeting of Agriculture.

In 1917 the Legislature established the expenditure limitation at \$3,500. In 1931, 16 years later, this limitation was increased to \$5,500. In 1953, 22 years latter, this limitation was increased to its present level of \$10,000. Since 1953, inflation and other factors have caused the cost of the Annual Meeting to go up considerably. It is a fact of life that meetings are expensive. Over the past few years, we have attempted not to pay any honorariums to speakers, yet we have had to pay travel and subsistence which is expensive as well.

During the 119-year history of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture, the Annual Meeting has always been one of gathering together the leaders of agriculture; discussing current issues; and disseminating issues on trends, developments and the future of Kansas agriculture. That continues to remain true today. However, if we are to continue that long-term mission then we are going to need authorization to expend a greater sum for this Annual Meeting. We may try to work in parts of our marketing, plant health, inspection or other divisions during the Annual Meeting to highlight them and their activities to those assembled.

Simply put, Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, the \$10,000 limit is an inhibition to our continuing to put on a top quality meeting for Kansans and Kansas agriculture. We ask that this limitation of expenditure be removed from enabling legislation and the cost of the Annual Meeting be controlled by the budget process instead.

I would be happy to respond to any questions.