

Approved 3-26-90
Date

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS

The meeting was called to order by Senator Don Sallee at
Chairperson

8:05 a.m./~~p.m.~~ on March 23, 1990 in room 526-S of the Capitol.

All members were present ~~except~~ or excused.

Committee staff present:

Pat Mah, Legislative Research Department
Fred Carman, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Clarene Wilms, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Ron Thornburgh, Office of the Secretary of State

Others attending: see attached list

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Don Sallee.

Ron Thornburgh, Office of the Secretary of State, appeared before the committee in support of HB-2819. This bill would reduce the deadline for the closing of registration books from 20 days to 15 days. Mr. Thornburgh noted that due to computer technology this reduction would allow the voter registration time to be lengthened. (Attachment 1)

Senator Bond moved, with a second by Senator Lee to pass HB-2819 out favorable for passage. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 a.m.

GUEST LIST

SENATE ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

DATE March 23, 1990

(PLEASE PRINT)

NAME AND ADDRESS

ORGANIZATION

Ron Thornburgh Topoka
Rebecca Rossmeyer Topoka

SOS
SOS

Bill Graves
Secretary of State



2nd Floor, State Capitol
Topeka, KS 66612-1594
(913) 296-2236

STATE OF KANSAS

TESTIMONY OF RON THORNBURGH
SENATE ELECTIONS COMMITTEE
MARCH 23, 1990

HB 2819

Thank you Mr. Chairman and members of the committee.

House Bill 2819 is a pleasant concession to technology. It gives Kansans a greater opportunity to register by reducing the deadline for the closing of registration books from 20 days to 15 days.

Because we know that many people wait until the last moment to decide to participate, this bill opens the registration window of opportunity even wider.

Many of the state's election officers believe that a 10 day deadline would be sufficient to allow for the verifications necessary to proper voter registration. However, technical concerns remain in several of our larger counties. Our office firmly believes the we will be back in front of this committee in a few years seeking to reduce the deadline to 10 days. The 15 day deadline will give election officials time to adjust and set the stage for further reduction in the future.

*Senate Elections
March 23, 1990
Attachment 1*