

Approved _____

MAR 29 1991
Gary Blumenthal
Date

MINUTES OF THE House COMMITTEE ON Governmental Organization

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Robert Watson at _____
Chairperson

9:00 a.m./p.m. on March 20, 1991 in room 522-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Rep. Gary Blumenthal, Chairperson, Excused

Committee staff present:

Carolyn Rampey, Research Dept.
Avis Swartzman, Revisor of Statutes
Nita Shively, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Rep. Tom Bishop
Sally Thompson, State Treasurer
E.A. Mosher, Executive Director, League of KS Municipalities
Norman Wilks, KS Assoc. of School Boards
Don Seifert, Asst. Director Administrative Services, Olathe
Dennis Shockley, Director - Inter-governmental Affairs, K.C.KS
Carolyn Hill, Acting Commissioner of Youth & Adult Services - SRS
Doug Bowman, Children & Youth Advisory Committee

Vice Chairman Watson called meeting to order when quorum was present.

HB 2321 - AN ACT concerning procurement procedures for state agencies and municipalities to obtain services required for the issuance of bonds for governmental projects or activities.

Chair recognized Rep. Bishop who testified and presented written testimony in support of HB 2321 (Attachment 1). He stated his belief that the proposed legislation would result in substantial savings for taxpayers and, in addition, prevent patronage. Rep. Bishop advised that other states, in particular Missouri, Arkansas and Oklahoma, have adopted similar legislation as outlined in this bill.

Sally Thompson testified in support of HB 2321 furnishing written testimony, (Attachment 2). Ms. Thompson described trust services involved with registering bonds and explained the difference between competitive bidding and negotiated bidding. While supporting the overall concept of HB 2321, she also voiced several concerns. She mentioned the need for clarification in several areas such as whether this competitive process applies to temporary notes, rating agencies, bond insurers, or single family mortgage notes. Also, the high cost for small bond issues.

E.A. Mosher appeared in opposition to HB 2321 furnishing written testimony, (Attachment 3). He stated that the definition of "bond" as it appears in the bill, is too ambiguous; the various interpretations make it difficult to determine which transactions would apply. He requested that municipalities be exempt from this bill.

Norman Wilks appeared in opposition to HB 2321, furnishing written testimony, (Attachment 4). Mr. Wilks emphasized that local districts should make the determination regarding selection of bonding services. He feels they are better qualified to access which options should be pursued.

Don Seifert testified and presented written testimony in opposition to HB 2321, (Attachment 5). Mr. Seifert advised that the city of Olathe already has a procurement ordinance which encompasses many of the procedures outlined in this bill. However, much more leeway is needed with regard to frequent bond issuers and the proposed legislation would actually be more costly and inefficient.

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 9:00 a.m./~~p.m.~~ on March 20, 1991

Dennis Shockley testified and presented written testimony in opposition to HB 2321, (Attachment 6). Mr. Shockley stated that the testimony of the State Treasurer raised many red flags which the committee needs to address. He indicated that the proposed legislation would restrict the ability of cities to move quickly and take advantage of the current market; that it removes flexibility.

HEARING CLOSED ON HB 2321

SB 227 - AN ACT establishing in each judicial district a children's community services planning group; providing for recommendations involving the provision of community services within the judicial district for children and other matters involving children.

Carolyn Hill testified and presented written testimony in support of SB 227, (Attachment 7). Ms. Hill stressed the importance of local-level involvement, in collaboration with state agencies, to assist children and families. Since there are 2 other bills (HB 2542 & HB 2555) containing similar proposals, she suggests that they be consolidated in a single bill.

Doug Bowman appeared in support of SB 227, furnishing written testimony, (Attachment 8). He feels that every effort should be made on all levels to improve children's services and that input from the local communities will help tie in with state programs. The problem of duplication of services can be dealt with appropriately whenever necessary.

HEARING CLOSED ON SB 227

Chair advised that due to serious concerns regarding both bills heard today, he is assigning them to subcommittees who will study and report back to the whole committee. HB 2321 assigned to subcommittee #2 chaired by Rep. Joan Hamilton and SB 227 assigned to subcommittee #1 chaired by Rep. Ruth Ann Hackler.

Chair drew attention to minutes for meetings held last week and asked committee members to review them before next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m. Next meeting will be Monday, March 25, 1991.

THOMAS A. BISHOP
"TOM"

REPRESENTATIVE, 91ST DISTRICT
SEDGWICK COUNTY
1500 W. 32ND N.
WICHITA, KANSAS 67204



TOPEKA

HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

MEMBER: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION
PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE
ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

To: Representative Gary Blumenthal, Chairperson
Members of Committee on Governmental Organization

From: Representative Tom Bishop

RE: Testimony in Support of HB 2321

Date: March 20, 1991

H.B. 2321 requires written procedures for selecting firms to provide services related to the issuances of bonds used to finance governmental projects or activities.

The main provisions of this bill are;

1. Written official procedures shall be established including specifications on how requests for proposals will be issued and the criteria for evaluation of proposals on a competitive basis.

2. The evaluation criteria shall include factors based on cost, capacity to provide the required services, qualifications and experience.

Why do we need H.B. 2321?

1. The success and cost savings this procedure has provided the state through Kansas Development Finance Authority (KDFA)

Since it was formed in 1987 KDFA has saved taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars through the request for proposal (RFP) process and this bill takes the learnings of KDFA and applies it to all of the states bonding activity.

2. Most states have similar provisions in statute both to prevent patronage and reduce costs. Provisions of some of our neighbors follow.

-Missouri (Mo. Rev. St. SS. 010, 030, and 040) Requires that the services of bond underwriters be selected through a competitive process.

*J.O. 3-20-91
Attachment 1*

-Oklahoma (Bond Oversight Reform Act) Requires that any professional services for state bond issues be obtained through a request for proposals (RFP) system. RFP's must be sent to at least three firms for each project, as well as to all that request them.

-Arkansas The Arkansas Development Finance Authority (ADFA), by policy, always uses RFPs. The proposals must detail, among other things, the experience the applicant has, the scope of services to be offered, and the cost of the services rendered. Weights assigned to the various factors make the selection process more objective. There is no statute that presently requires ADFA to use this system, but they adhere to it as a matter of policy because it has been so effective. The ADFA is required to submit reports to the Arkansas Legislative Council for its review.

3. It is good public policy that will reduce cost, save taxpayers money, and help restore confidence in government.

We have learned personally, professionally, and through other areas of government activity that receiving proposals from a variety of firms helps assure value and quality. State and local government follow this procedure whether purchasing fire trucks or pencils.

The purchase of financial services is no different in this regard. The state presently requires RFPs for audit services for subcontractors in various programs.

Following established procedures and receiving competitive proposals for services is the way most states, and KDFRA in Kansas have reduced patronage, increased quality and lowered costs.

4. This bill should increase the value and marketability of Kansas Bond issues.

There is nothing in this bill that effects how bonds are sold; i.e. negotiated vs bid sale.

There is nothing in this bill that requires that low bids be accepted if it is an inferior proposal.

*g. O. 3-20-91
attachment 1-2*

H.B. 2321
March 20, 1991

Page 3

There is nothing in this bill that will reduce the value of the bonds or their pricing as they are taken to market, in fact it should have the opposite effect by ensuring quality.

5. The bill, as written, allows considerable flexibility.

Some cities use RFPs to select bond firms on a three year basis to handle all the small issues within that period of time.

6. H.B. 2321 can save Kansas money.

In five relatively small issues, managed by KDFA, the difference between high and low price quotes for services was \$270,916.86.

If you apply the range of price quotes in a typical KDFA bond counsel RFP to the \$890,000,000 in highway bonds to be issued after July 1, 1991 costs could range from \$445,000 to \$3,115,000. It is possible that up to \$2,670,000 could be saved taxpayers through a formal RFP process.

Thank you for you consideration of H.B. 2321.

*g.o. 3.20-91
attachment 1-3*



STATE OF KANSAS

Sally Thompson

TREASURER

900 JACKSON, SUITE 201
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612-1235

TELEPHONE
(913) 296-3171

Testimony on HB 2321
before the
House Committee on Governmental Organization
by
State Treasurer Sally Thompson
Wednesday, March 20, 1991

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee. I appreciate the opportunity to discuss HB 2321 which would provide procurement procedures for services required for issuance of bonds for state agencies and municipalities.

Like most industries, the municipal bond business enlists special skills of many participants. Distinct parts are taken in the market by such players as underwriters, bond counsel, financial advisors, accountants, state and local treasurers, federal regulators, and institutional and individual investors.

Looking at the work of the State Treasurer's office, the total number of bond issues outstanding in the State of Kansas is 3,665 -- 85 percent of which the State Treasurer's office performs trust services. Trust services involves the registering of bonds, acting as a transfer agent when bonds are subsequently traded between investors and acting as a paying agent which means collecting principal and interest expense from the issuer and paying it to the bond holder on a semi-annual basis. A simple average issue size is \$2.0 million and in the last eight years we have registered approximately 220 issues a year. (Under current statute all bond issues under \$200,000 are required to use the trust services of the State Treasurer.)

HB 2321 will require the State Treasurer to bid all trust services. And based on the average of the past eight years, the

*g.o. 3-20-91
attachment 2*

State Treasurer's office will be responding to a request for proposal nearly every day.

The fees the State Treasurer receives for trust services amounts to approximately \$400,000 a year. The amount of interest earned on bond interest float is \$1.5 million. All of this income goes into the state's General Fund.

Trust services on bonds requires various skills and computer programming. To our knowledge only three or four banks in the state of Kansas offer these services.

As I understand HB 2321, it requires competitive bidding on services needed to issue bonds and service the bond issue after it is sold. It does not require competitive bidding to market and sell the bonds and therefore would allow the issuer the option of either competitive or negotiated underwriting. This decision of competitive or negotiated underwriting is usually made up front by the issuer who perhaps seeks the help of a financial advisor. Only then would a request for competitively bid services be prepared. It is important that this distinction is kept in mind as HB 2321 is reviewed because the industry's language provides little help in keeping us mindful of the distinction. The same term, "competitive bidding," is used in two different areas.

At any rate, it is my understanding that since its inception in 1987, the Kansas Development Finance Authority has followed this process of first determining competitive or negotiated underwriting and then requesting competitively bid services. Through January 1991, KDFA has sold 25 bond issues of which eleven have been sold with competitive bidding, eight with negotiated sale, and six with private placement. Services for these issues were competitively bid after the type of sale was determined. It is services, not marketing and selling, that HB 2321 addresses.

The concept of the bill represents free market competition and equal access for all services required for a municipal bond issue, a concept I support. However, there are a number of issues and clarifications of application that perhaps others at this hearing will answer.

There is some concern on my part that this requirement might

g.c. 3-20-91
attachment 2-2

be excessively cumbersome and costly for small bond issues especially at the local governmental unit. There perhaps needs to be a minimum bond offering dollar level before competitive bidding for services is required.

Unanswered in the bill as drafted is whether this competitive process applies to temporary notes, rating agencies, bond insurers, or single family mortgage notes.

It is incumbent upon elected officials to be good stewards of the public trust, and certainly, in this whole area there is potential for abuses. I, however, think it is imperative that any legislation in this area be responsive to concerns about abuse rather than punitively reactionary to all the participants. Specific examples of abuse need to be examined to determine the best direction for public policy and statute.

I greatly appreciate the opportunity to discuss HB 2321 and would be happy to work with the Committee as it continues its consideration of the needs this bill addresses. I would stand to answer any questions the committee may have at the appropriate time.

g. O. 3-20-8
attachment 2-3



League of Kansas Municipalities

Municipal Legislative Testimony

PUBLISHERS OF KANSAS GOVERNMENT JOURNAL 112 W. 7TH TOPEKA, KS 66603 (913) 354-9565 FAX (913) 354-4186

TO: House Committee on Governmental Organization
FROM: E.A. Mosher, Executive Director, League of Kansas Municipalities
RE: HB 2321--Procurement of Municipal Bond Services
DATE: March 20, 1991

As a result of action by the League's State Legislative Committee, I appear in opposition to HB 2321 to the extent it applies to cities.

As we interpret HB 2321, it would require every Kansas municipality to do two things relating to the issuance of bonds: First, each municipality would need to establish written official procedures for obtaining bond-related services, including specifications and criteria for the evaluation of proposals on a competitive basis. Secondly, each municipality would be required to publish requests for proposals, and provide such RFPs to any interested party which so requests.

Requests for proposals for some bond services is now practiced by many cities, usually for issues of a significant amount. Sometimes service agreements are entered into on a one or two year basis. To our knowledge, however, it is not common practice to adopt official procedures for soliciting such services, and to specify the evaluation criteria in advance.

We call to your attention that the word "bond" is very broadly defined, in subsection (d)(3) on page 2. As we read it, the term would cover temporary notes, no-fund warrants and lease-purchase agreements, even when for small amounts and for short terms. We are not certain, but the definition of "bond" appears broad enough to cover very small financial transactions, such as a lease-purchase agreement for a photo-copying machine at city hall.

The definition of "services" in subsection (d)(4) is also very broad. It would appear to extend to bond payment trustee services, perhaps requiring the State Treasurer to respond to RFPs. Bond printing RFPs would apparently be required. Since local units are mandated to publish bond sale notices in the "Kansas Register", we assume there would be no competition with the Secretary of State. Would RFPs be required for the services of a bond rating organization? What about bond insurance?

In conclusion, we believe that Kansas cities have done a creditable job in their debt financing, obtaining the best bond services available at a reasonable cost. We are not aware of any incidents which merits the imposition of this kind of state mandate on municipalities. We are worried that the bill adds to the existing complexity of the process, and could cause delays, especially for market-timed refunding issues. We have no position on the application of the bill to state agencies, but recommend that municipalities be excluded from the bill.

President: Frances J. Garcia, Commissioner, Hutchinson * **Vice President: Robert G. Knight**, Mayor, Wichita * **Past President: Irene B. French**, Mayor, Merriam * **Directors: Michael A. Conduff**, City Manager, Manhattan * **Ed Eilert**, Mayor, Overland Park * **Harry L. Felker**, Mayor, Topeka * **Greg Ferris**, Councilmember, Wichita * **Idella Frickey**, Mayor, Oberlin * **William J. Goering**, City Clerk/Administrator, McPherson * **Judith C. Holinsworth**, Mayor, Humboldt * **Jesse Jackson**, Commissioner, Chanute * **Stan Martin**, City Attorney, Abilene * **Mark Mingenback**, Councilmember, Great Bend * **Joseph E. Steineger, Jr.**, Mayor, Kansas City * **Bonnie Talley**, Commissioner, Garden City * **Executive Director: E. A. Mosher**

E.A. Mosher
3-20-91
Attachment 3

KANSAS
ASSOCIATION



OF
SCHOOL
BOARDS

5401 S. W. 7th Avenue Topeka, Kansas 66606
913-273-3600

**Testimony on H.B. 2321
before the
House Committee on Governmental Organizations**

by

**NORMAN D. WILKS, DIRECTOR OF LABOR RELATIONS
Kansas Association of School Boards**

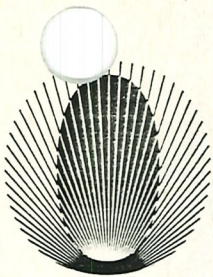
March 20, 1991

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee, we appreciate the opportunity to appear before the committee on behalf of the Member Boards of Education of the Kansas Association of School Boards. We wish to express our general opposition to the passage of H.B. 2321.

Our opposition is based on the premise that most of the services listed are of a confidential relationship based on trust and communication between the professionals providing the service and the board of education. We further believe that boards can approach bonding service and selection of people to provide those services through their policy-making powers. The bill, as drafted, would be an unnecessary intrusion into the local control as now exercised by boards of education in the state of Kansas.

We, therefore, urge that you not pass H.B. 2321.

*g-o, 3-20-91
attachment 4*



City of Olathe

TO: Members of the House Governmental Organization Committee
FROM: Donald R. Seifert, Asst. Director, Administrative Services
SUBJECT: House Bill 2321 - Procurement Practices for Bond Issuance Services
DATE: March 20, 1991

On behalf of the city of Olathe, thank you for the opportunity to appear today and express concerns about House Bill 2321. This bill would require the use of formal written proposals to obtain professional services associated with each issuance of bonds. The city of Olathe certainly supports the concept of protecting the taxpayers' interests through competitive procurement of professional services. However, as drafted, we believe the bill would be especially burdensome on frequent bond issuers and could have the opposite impact on controlling costs.

Olathe is a rapidly growing, full service community in the center of Johnson County. Providing for the community's basic physical infrastructure is one of the biggest challenges for our governing body. To meet our capital needs, it is not unusual for Olathe to market temporary notes three or four times a year, and once or twice annually issue general obligation and revenue bonds. Preparing an issue for market is a complex process, requiring professional legal and financial services. It would be costly, inefficient, and impractical to prepare, distribute, and evaluate requests for proposals for professional services on each and every one of these bond issues.

The city does in fact follow a competitive process for obtaining these professional services, but does not reinvent the wheel on each bond issue. Several years ago, the city adopted a procurement ordinance which specifies procedures and evaluation criteria for purchasing goods and services in excess of \$300. Pursuant to this ordinance, all professional services, including engineering, appraisal, auditing, financial, and legal services are obtained through competitive proposals.

Professional services associated with bond issues are provided by a financial advisor and bond counsel pursuant to written agreements for a specified time period, generally three years. Having a professional team in place over this time period provides continuity in answering the city's questions between bond issues, complying with federal arbitrage rules, and maintaining contact with bond rating agencies. Through longer term agreements, the city is also able to lock in professional fee structures over a period of time. If we contracted for these services on each bond issue, our costs would undoubtedly increase.

We would agree with the sponsors of HB 2321 that it is good public policy for bond issuers to have procurement procedures in place for professional services. However, cities do not need another expensive and cumbersome mandate from Topeka, and we oppose this bill if it is applied to municipalities. This legislation may be entirely appropriate for state government and its agencies which infrequently borrow funds. However, we believe HB 2321 would put unreasonable restrictions on our ability to manage our city's affairs. We would respectfully request the committee to remove cities from this bill.

g. O. 3-20-91
attachment 5-2

ISSUE #4

MUNICIPAL FINANCE

SUMMARY

Cities should enjoy broad powers and flexibility in debt financing and in current financing of capital improvements, facilities, and equipment. State laws governing municipal bonds should be continuously modernized to preserve their high investment quality in what has become an increasingly competitive bond market and to reduce the cost of borrowing.

Legislation is needed authorizing a simplified, inexpensive, short-term borrowing procedure. Also, the authority and procedures for the sale by municipalities of their bonds in small denominations directly to individuals and businesses should be clarified to encourage citizens to invest in their communities (League of Kansas Municipalities Policy Statement, Section E-3).

To reduce the local tax burden, cities should have broad authority to invest their active and inactive monies, including investing in money market funds guaranteed as to principal. Also, the general investment statute in K.S.A. 12-1675 should be amended to eliminate the six month limit on treasury bills or notes (League Policy Statement, Section D-7).

The City supports privatization legislation, to amend L.1990, Ch.64, that broadens the authority for local privatization of facilities and services for use by the public, including broader statutory authority to enter into multi-year contracts.

ACTION AND COMMENTS

Have bill(s) introduced, if necessary.

ISSUE #5

MAINTENANCE OF LOCAL REVENUE SOURCES/LOCAL FISCAL FLEXIBILITY**SUMMARY**

A number of changes have occurred over the past decade in the fiscal relationships between the federal, state, and local levels of government. Federal funding to local governments has decreased significantly since 1978. In that year, Kansas City, Kansas, received \$16.5 million from federal revenue sharing, the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) program, Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), and other grants-in-aid. For fiscal year 1991, Kansas City, Kansas, has been allocated \$1.973 million for the CDBG program, while the other programs listed above have been phased out by the federal government. That drastic reduction in federal funds has been compensated for by a reduction in some services as well as a reduction in employees (the city has 156 fewer employees than it had in 1984). The reduction has also forced the city to look for alternative revenue sources, so local license fees and occupational taxes have been increased as well as an increase in the local sales tax (voters in 1983 approved the maximum general sales taxes allowed by state law).

At the state level, local units were hit (as were state agencies) through action by the Legislature which passed decreases in the Special City and County Revenue Sharing Fund and the Local Ad Valorem Tax Reduction Fund. Also, over the past few years sales tax revenues have stagnated showing little or no growth in our city.

The City of Kansas City and other Kansas local units are running out of options in terms of enhancing our revenues. In the years ahead, we may be forced to make drastic cuts in both programs and services. We recommend an increase in the present county and city revenue sharing fund by allocating 2.5% of total income tax revenue and by increasing the sharing of state sales tax revenue from 3.5% to 5% (League of Kansas Municipalities Policy Statement F-5a). Also, to help with the tremendous costs of rebuilding and maintaining our infrastructure, cities should be authorized to levy a special 1/4 cent sales tax earmarked for public infrastructure improvements subject only to a voter petition for a referendum (League Policy Statement F-5b).

ACTION AND COMMENTS

Take appropriate action or review legislation as it is developed.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES
Robert C. Harder, Acting Secretary

Testimony on Senate Bill 227

AN ACT ESTABLISHING IN EACH JUDICIAL DISTRICT A CHILDREN'S PLANNING GROUP;
PROVIDING FOR RECOMMENDATIONS INVOLVING THE PROVISION OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
WITHIN THE JUDICIAL DISTRICT FOR CHILDREN
AND OTHER MATTERS INVOLVING CHILDREN.

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee, I appear before you today regarding Senate Bill 227.

This bill proposes the development of children's community services planning groups in each judicial district. These groups are similar to those proposed in HB 2542 on local commissions on children, youth and families and HB 2555 on local children's authorities. Emphasis is placed on prevention and early intervention services.

We are supportive of the development of more effective collaborative efforts at both the state and local levels and believe that this bill, the bills mentioned above and HB 2010 referenced in this bill should be consolidated.

Leadership should be provided at the state level for the development of integrated state policy on children and families. Priority should be placed on strategies which enable families to carry out their responsibilities to their children and to function independently. Expectations should be tied to the resources allocated with emphasis placed on outcomes to be achieved. Consumer involvement in planning should be ensured. State level agencies should model the kind of collaboration necessary to carry out the charge contained in Senate Bill 227.

J.C. 3-20-91
attachment 7

Before needs assessments are undertaken at the local level, a thorough review of recent studies should be completed to determine their applicability to the local situation. Recent examples include the Department of Education's study of at-risk students, the Children and Youth Advisory Committee's Ten Year Plan, the Juvenile Offender Policy Conference, the University of Kansas Analysis of the System of Care for Severely Emotionally Disturbed Children, Legislative Performance Audit Reports, and Governor Hayden's Task Force on Children and Families. Some communities also have needs assessments and priority studies which would be helpful in this effort.

Communities should be encouraged to build on the considerable collaborative efforts which already exist. Communities are in the best position to develop strategies and design programs which meet the unique needs of their children, families and communities. Examples of existing efforts include the Court/Education/SRS liaison committees, foster care review boards, mental health planning coalitions, child protective service multi-disciplinary teams, and early childhood coordinating councils.

We support the development of local planning and implementation groups. We believe that the emphasis on prevention and early intervention are particularly critical if we are to support families in carrying out their responsibilities to their children and to slow the rate of foster care growth.

I appreciate this opportunity to appear before you today.

Carolyn Risley Hill
Acting Commissioner
Youth and Adult Services
Department of Social and
Rehabilitation Services
(913) 296-3284

*g. O. 3 20-91
attachment 72*



STATE OF KANSAS

CHILDREN AND YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SMITH-WILSON BLDG.
300 S.W. OAKLEY
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66606-1898

(913) 296-2017

KANS-A-N 561-2017

TESTIMONY BEFORE HOUSE GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE

Rep. Gary Blumenthal - Chairperson

SB #227 - March 20, 1991

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify today. My name is Doug Bowman, and I represent the Children and Youth Advisory Committee.

As partial fulfillment of our mission to advocate within state government for the youth of Kansas, we have recently completed a planning document: "Toward The Year 2000". Our plan is for this to become an annual process. Each year we would reassess the progress made towards the goals we have established. In completing this process, we would invite participation from as many interested people as possible. The establishment of children's community services planning groups would fit nicely into these plans.

From a broader perspective, anytime a local community takes time to carefully analyze children's services, good things will happen. Instances where services are duplicative can be addressed. When services are needed, but not currently provided, these gaps can be filled. We believe these efforts are a wise investment in our most precious commodity: our children.

Thank you for your time.

*g.O. 3-20-91
Attachment 8*