

Approved 2-11-92
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS

The meeting was called to order by Representative Sherman Jones at
Chairperson

9:25 a.m./p.m. on February 3, 19 92n room 521-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Parkinson (excused)

Representative Praeger (excused)

Representative Baker (excused)

Representative Shallenburger (excused)

Representative Wells (excused)

Representative Cates (excused)

Representative Scott (excused)

Representative King (excused)

Committee staff present:

Arden Ensley, Revisor

Pat Mah, Research

Shirley Lee, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Joe de la Torre, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State

Others attending: see attached list.

Chairman Jones opened the hearing for **SB 84**.

Joe de la Torre, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, appeared before the Committee in support of **SB 84**. He stated **SB 84** allows 16 and 17 year olds to be poll workers, and provides increased voter education among the youth of Kansas (Attachment 1).

Chairman Jones opened the floor for questions. There being none, he called for any opponents to **SB 84**. There were no opponents and the hearing was closed.

With no further business, Chairman Jones adjourned the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Bill Graves
Secretary of State



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STATE OF KANSAS

TESTIMONY OF JOSE DE LA TORRE
HOUSE ELECTIONS COMMITTEE
February 3, 1992

SENATE BILL 84

Thank you Mr. Chairman and members of the committee for the opportunity to appear before you today on behalf of Secretary of State Graves.

Senate Bill 84, which allows 16 and 17 year olds to be poll workers, provides us with a tool to increase voter education among the youth of Kansas. It will also create a larger pool of potential board workers for the county election officers.

Secretary Graves has always believed that the key to increasing voter participation is through voter education. Sixteen and seventeen year olds will build a lifetime of voting habits through this first-hand experience.

Because the election board worker system is partisan by nature, we will use teen-age poll workers only after the county chairs' recommendations have been exhausted.

An added benefit to this piece of legislation is the larger pool of potential board workers. It is becoming an increasing problem throughout the nation, and Kansas is no exception, for county election officials to recruit board workers.

We urge your approval of this legislation and ask that you consider it favorable for passage.

Thank you.

House Elections
2-3-92
Attachment 1