

MINUTES OF THE House COMMITTEE ON Labor and Industry

The meeting was called to order by Representative Anthony Hensley
Chairperson

9:11 a.m./~~p.m.~~ on March 20, 1992 in room 526-S of the Capitol

All members were present except:

Committee staff present:

Jerry Donaldson, Principal Analyst
Barbara Dudney, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

The meeting was called to order at 9:12 a.m., by the chairman, Rep. Anthony Hensley.

Chairman Hensley pointed out to the committee that Rep. Denise Everhart, chairperson of the subcommittee on workers' compensation legislation, had compiled and distributed to each committee member copies of the meeting minutes, proposed amendments, and other written materials taken by the subcommittee. He then opened the floor for individual members of the subcommittee to make comments to update the full committee on the subcommittee's progress:

Rep. Arthur Douville discussed three proposed amendments to House Bill No. 3039 under consideration by the subcommittee. He also expressed his support for a legislative interim study on various issues related to workers' compensation reform.

Rep. Don Smith stated that the amendments suggested by Rep. Douville were worth the full committee's consideration, but he hoped the 1992 Legislature would enact other amendments to Kansas workers' compensation statutes that would reduce insurance costs to employers while not cutting benefits to injured workers.

The chairman then stated that it was his understanding that Senator Alicia Salisbury, chairperson of the Senate Labor, Industry and Small Business Committee, was planning to take action on Senate Bill No. 666 in the near future. He said that, while an interim study on workers' compensation may be useful, he was hopeful the Senate and House could work together to address meaningful reforms this session.

The chairman opened the floor for discussion and final action on House Bill No. 2419, an act repealing the "local option" provision under the Kansas Public Employer-Employee Relations Act, which requires that the governing body of any public employer, except the state and its agencies, by a majority vote may elect to bring itself and its employees under the act.

Rep. Eloise Lynch moved to report House Bill No. 2419 favorable for passage. The motion was seconded by Rep. Dick Edlund. Rep. Al Lane made a substitute motion to table the bill. The motion was seconded by Rep. Jack Sluiter. Motion failed by a vote of 9-9.

Discussion followed. Rep. Everhart made a substitute motion to amend House Bill No. 2419 to limit its application to cities of the first class, counties and unified school districts. The motion was seconded by Rep. Bob Grant. Motion carried.

Rep. Diane Gjerstad moved to report House Bill No. 2419 favorable for passage, as amended. The motion was seconded by Rep. Lynch. Motion carried by a vote of 10-9. The following members requested to be recorded in the minutes as voting against the motion: Rep. Garry Boston, Rep. Darlene Cornfield, Rep. Douville, Rep. Dorothy Flottman, Rep. Gary Hayzlett, Rep. Lane, and Rep. Susan Wagle.

The chairman opened the floor for discussion and final action on House Bill No. 3069, an act which would reduce employer unemployment taxes by ten-percent in calendar years 1993 and 1994.

Rep. Everhart moved to report House Bill No. 3069 favorable for passage. The motion was seconded by Rep. Edlund. Motion carried.

The chairman then entertained a motion to approve the minutes of previous committee meetings. Rep. Grant moved to approve the minutes of the March 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, 1992 meetings. The motion was seconded by Rep. Lynch. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:43 a.m.

