

Approved: 3-13-95
Date

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson David Corbin at 10:00 a.m. on March 9, 1995 in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Quorum was present.

committee staff present: Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department
Jill Wolters, Revisor of Statutes
Lila McClafin, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Others attending: See attached list

A motion was made by Senator Clark to approve the minutes of March 7. Senator Steffes seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Chairperson Corbin opened the discussion on **HB 2384 - State Board of Agriculture selected by the Governor; 11 members, 2 from each Congressional District, 3 at large; secretary selected by the Board.** Chairperson Corbin called attention to a handout form Joe Lieber, Kanas Cooperative Council, in which his organization opposed **HB 2384 (Attachment 1)**. Also, a fiscal note was distributed.

Senator Sallee moved to report **HB 2384** favorably for passage. The motion was seconded by Senator Morris. Committee discussion followed. A member of the Committee stressed the due to the importance of the issue all members of the Committee should be present to vote on it. Committee consensus was to postpone the vote until Monday, March 13.

The meeting adjourned at 10:22 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 13, 1995.

SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

DATE: 3-9-95

NAME	REPRESENTING
Bill Craven	KMRC / Sierra
R.W. Apple	NY Times
Traci Cole	A.P.
Carole Jordan	Dept of Ag.
Neil Rutkowski	Gov. office.
Marty Vanier	KS Ag Alliance
Mike Jensen	Ks Food Council
Jamie Clover Adams	KS Grain Feed Assn
Jeanne Flower	House Ag Comm.
Lynn Ruddle	Ks. Assn. wheat growers
Jerre White	Ks Corn Growers Assn.
Bill Fuller	Kansas Farm Bureau
Loy Hall	Kansas Farm Bureau
Allie Dennis	Ks. Dept. of Agriculture
Rep Steve Boyd	House Ag Comm.
Joe Luler	Ks Co-op Council
Mary Jane Stattelmaier	KS Farm Bureau
Milly Phillips	Rep. McUre
Alan Holmes	Division of Budget

Testimony on HB 2384
Senate Agriculture Committee
March 9, 1995
Prepared by Joe Lieber
Kansas Cooperative Council

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I'm Joe Lieber, Executive Vice President of the Kansas Cooperative Council. The Council's membership consists of nearly 200 cooperative businesses having a combined total of nearly 200,000 members.

The Council was happy with the old way the Board of Agriculture was selected and the hiring of the Secretary of Agriculture. But, since that was declared unconstitutional, our choice would be to have the Secretary of Agriculture appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate.

Our philosophy here is that Governor-in and Governor-out, we would usually come up with a good appointee that would have to be confirmed by the Senate.

We are opposed to HB 2384 because of the long range affects it will have on agriculture. In the not-so-distant future, Kansas will go through reapportionment. The first Congress district may end up having 80% of the farm production in the State but it would only be entitled to two board members. Other board members would come from urban districts.

Even though the Governor could pick three at-large from the first district, we feel he/she would probably like to have at least one consumer advocate and an "environmentalist" on the board.

We would like to take our chances with the Governor appointing one person to the position of Secretary.

The Council does like the idea of an advisory board because we feel the board would be a great asset to the Secretary and it would also enable the Secretary to feel the pulse of the Ag industry in Kansas.

We would like to see the board selected similar to the way the old board was selected at an annual meeting. We realize that an advisory board does not have as much teeth as the old board, but I think it is a realistic option.

For this reason, we oppose HB 2384.

We appreciate the opportunity to visit with you today and we will attempt to answer questions.

*Senate Ag Co
3-9-95
attachment 1*