

Approved: 1/31/95
Date

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Al Ramirez at 1:30 p.m. on January 18, 1995 in Room 531-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present: Julian Efird, Legislative Research Department
Fred Carman, Revisor of Statutes
Jacqueline Breymeyer, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Senator Steve Morris, Chairperson, Joint Committee on Computers & Telecommunications

Others attending: See attached list

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ramirez at 1:35 p.m. The Chairman told the Committee about the meeting he had held with the Vice Chairman, Ranking Minority Member, Deputy Secretary of Administration, Chair of the Steering Committee on Reinventing Kansas Government and, staff relating to Reinventing Kansas Government. The consensus of the meeting was that any action at this time would be premature and it would be best to wait for recommendations. Jeff Wagaman and Gloria Timmer will contact the Chairman at a later date with input.

The Chairman welcomed Senator Steve Morris, Chairperson of the Joint Committee on Computers and Telecommunications, to the committee. Senator Morris was present to testify on SB 19--concerning the Kansas Information Resources Council.

Senator Morris distributed copies of his testimony (Attachment 1), and stated the purpose of the legislation was to correct a mistake committed in the original authorizing legislation. The two legislative members who serve on the Council are not paid per diem compensation for attendance at monthly meetings. They were included in the section of the bill which precludes the three private sector representatives from receiving per diem compensation for serving on the Council. The rationale was that private sector people are on their respective company payrolls and would be compensated by their firms. During Sessions when Legislators are in Topeka this is not important, but during the Interim, per diem compensation is usually paid. In general, attendance at these public meetings is treated like attendance at regular Interim legislative committee meetings.

Senator Morris stated that there is another possible amendment in addition to that included in his testimony. This would make it possible when the Council was alternating Senators and Representatives for the President of the Senate to appoint the Senate member, and the Speaker of the House to appoint the House member. Those persons currently serving could be grandfathered into the legislation. Currently each member is appointed by the Chairperson of the Joint Committee on Computers and Telecommunications and the Chairperson of the Appropriations Committee.

The Chairman stated the bill would be worked next week. The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for January 24, 1995.

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 AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

SENATE GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE

SB 19

January 18, 1995

The purpose of this legislation is to correct a mistake committed in the original authorizing legislation for the Kansas Information Resources Council passed by the 1994 Legislature. The problem was known at the time the bill was returned to the House for a motion to concur or nonconcur with the Senate changes in the bill, but since the bill was not placed in a conference committee due to the motion to concur prevailing, the problem was not corrected last year.

Currently, the two members of the Legislature who serve on the Council are not paid per deim compensation for attendance at the monthly meetings. This practice is contrary to the reimbursements provisions for legislators serving on most public entities, except a few such as the Kansas Tourism Commission.

It would appear that legislators were inadvertently included in the section of the bill which precludes the three private sector representatives from receiving per deim compensation for serving on the Council. The rationale was that these people were on the payroll of their companies and would be compensated by the firms when attending the Council meetings.

During the Sessions when both legislators are in Topeka, this provision is not important. However, as all of you know, during the Interim when legislators come to Topeka for statutorily mandated attendance for serving on public bodies other than legislative committees, per deim compensation usually is paid. There are a few exceptions, but in general, attendance at these public meetings is treated just like attendance at regular Interim legislative committee meetings.

I urge your favorable recommendation of this bill to correct this problem.

*Senate Governmental Organization
 Attachment 1
 1-18-95*