

Approved: _____
Date 3-27-96

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Robin Jennison at 1:30 p.m. on March 11, 1996 in Room 514-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative Edlund, excused

Committee staff present: Alan Conroy, Russell Mills, Susan Wieggers, Legislative Research Department
Jim Wilson, Revisor of Statutes; Mike Corrigan, Revisor
Tim Kukula, Appropriations Secretary; Todd Fertig, Administrative Aide

Conferees appearing before the committee: Representative Britt Nichols
Representative Cliff Franklin

Others attending: See attached list

Chairman Jennison called the meeting to order by opening hearings on **HB 2952**, a bill relating to state agencies that receive no FY 1997 appropriations. Chairman Jennison recognized Representative Britt Nichols and Representative Franklin to testify as proponents before the committee (Attachments 1 & 2).

Several questions were asked concerning the constitutionality of the bill, dynamics, process and veto.

No action on **HB 2952** was taken and hearings were closed.

The committee was distributed all of the committee minutes from February 8 through March 6 for approval.

A motion was made by Representative Lowther, seconded by Representative Dean to amend the minutes from February 9 and February 13 to make some technical changes. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Representative Mollenkamp, seconded by Representative Farmer, to adopt the minutes from February 8 through March 6, with February 9 and February 13 as amended. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Representative Farmer, seconded by Representative Reinhardt, to introduce a House Concurrent Resolution concerning performance measures under the state Board of Regents.

A motion was made by Representative Helgerson, seconded by Representative Dean, to introduce a bill concerning conservation officers of Wildlife and Parks.

After some discussion, Representative Nichols stated that the bill had already been introduced and was with the Revisor.

Representative Helgerson and Representative Dean withdrew the motion.

A motion was made by Representative Neufeld, seconded by Representative Helgerson, to introduce a bill concerning Hospital District elections. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 12, 1996.



TOPEKA

HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

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HOUSE COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

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ROOM 182-W CAPITOL BLDG
TOPEKA, KS 66612

House Bill 2952

To: House Committee on Appropriations
From: Britt Nichols, State Representative
Date: March 11, 1996

Chair Jennison, Committee members and fellow conferees:

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before this committee in support of HB 2952.

There has been a Sea-change in Kansas. The process appropriations process in Kansas is now, in fact, different than it has been in years past. For good or bad, the legislature was presented with a budget that was smaller than last year's budget. And our half of the legislature has, for the first time in memory, acted on that budget in a single bill. The process, whether we prefer it or not, is now different. We are operating under new and different rules. And for those different rules, we need different tools. HB 2952 is such a tool for our use.

When the House adopted the Governor's budget as a part of one bill, the line for next year's appropriations formed outside the Governor's office and the budget director's office later that same day. We told everyone in the state, as we should, that the budget process starts with the Governor's budget and that it has now become critical for anyone with an interest in Kansas' appropriations to make certain that their interest and their numbers are in the Governor's budget. That is as it should be. But without a backstop, without some lever or hammer, the Governor's office will now be the seat of all of the pressure that has always been exerted on the legislature. While I am sure that they can stand the pressure, it will be easier for them to do their job if they can point to HB 2952 and say to the supplicants: Negotiate a reasonable budget with the Budget Director's office and get into the Governor's budget with a reasonable request or you will be out on the floor looking for votes on your own. HB 2952 will strengthen the budget process by giving the Governor's office and the legislature a new choice in the process. Mary Chapin Carpenter sings: *"Cut the deck right in half, I'll play from either side."* That is what HB 2952 does in the appropriation process. It is fair for either side. Thank you for your time. I hope you can your support HB 2952.

Britt Nichols

Room 182 West State Capitol Topeka, KS 66612 (913) 296-7541

3-11-96

House Appropriations

Attachment

1

STATE OF KANSAS

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

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MEMBER: EDUCATION
FEDERAL & STATE AFFAIRS
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TOPEKA

HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

**Appropriations Committee
HB 2952
Budget Saver Act**

**Representative Cliff Franklin
March 14, 1996**

Mr. Chairman and members of the Appropriations Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in favor of HB 2952 which provides a safety net for our budget process. We have seen gridlock cause many problems in our nations Congress and a balanced budget proposal is yet to be resolved. This bill would assure state agencies the previous years appropriations if agreement could not be reached by the state legislature. Representative Nichols has discussed the bill in detail and I urge your consideration of this issue.

House Appropriations

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Attachment 2