

Approved: 2-3 97
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION & ELECTIONS.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Kent Glasscock at 9:00 a.m. on January 27, 1997 in Room 521-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Rep. Larry Campbell, Excused
Rep. David Haley, Excused
Rep. Robert Tomlinson, Excused

Committee staff present: Mary Galligan, Legislative Research Department
Mike Heim, Legislative Research Department
Dennis Hodgins, Legislative Research Department
Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes
Fulva Seufert, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Representative Jack Wempe
Mr. Brad Bryant, Secretary of State's Office

Others attending: See attached list

Chairperson Glasscock called the Committee's attention to the distributed Minutes of January 23, 1997. Rep. Herman Dillon moved, and Rep. Deena Horst seconded that the Minutes be approved. Motion passed.

Chairperson Kent Glasscock welcomed Representative Jack Wempe to the Committee. He spoke as a proponent for **HB 2023**.

HB 2023 - An Act repealing K.S.A. 80-504; concerning townships; relating to township clerks.

Rep. Wempe said that **HB 2023** relates to an outdated requirement that township clerks be bonded in the amount of \$300.00. He stated that this requirement was established prior to the turn of the century and was referenced in 1923; therefore, he would like it removed from the statute books. (Attachment 1.)

Rep. Ralph Tanner asked if he proposed anything in lieu of this bond, and he responded that since the Township treasurer is bonded, there would be no need.

Rep. Deena Horst commented that perhaps the township clerks were responsible once, but today they are not responsible. Rep. Wempe said that most townships require dual signatures.

Theresa Kiernan, Revisor, responded that this has never been amended and that \$300.00 probably meant something years ago, but today the clerk is more like a secretary. Rep. Wempe quipped that "a \$300.00 bond today is half a load of gravel." He also said that the \$20.00 to \$25.00 cost is not a large amount, but when it is multiplied across the state, it is significant.

The Chairperson closed the public hearing on **HB 2023**.

After Representative Ted Powers asked a couple questions about **HB 2023**, he moved that **HB 2023** be passed out of Committee marked favorable for passage and placed on the Consent Calendar. Motion seconded by Rep. Herman Dillon and passed.

Chairperson Glasscock called the Committee's attention to the written testimony provided as promised by William Henry, Executive Secretary Kansas Association of Defense Counsel, which expresses his Association's concern with the language in the Whistleblowing bill, **HB 2014**.

Rep. Ralph Tanner said that Brad Bryant from the Secretary of State's office was present to explain several bills that the Elections Subcommittee has been considering. Brad Bryant said that there are two bills that contain 8 items and one concurrent resolution. The two bills concern Voter Registration and Candidates/Campaigns. The concurrent resolution is an amendment to end census adjustment. (Attachment 2.)

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION & ELECTIONS, Room 521-S Statehouse, at 9:00 a.m. on January 27, 1997.

Representative Ralph Tanner moved that the Committee accept these bills for introduction. Rep. Deena Horst seconded, and motion passed.

Rep. Gwen Welshimer made a motion to introduce a bill concerning cities of the first class; relating to the disqualification of certain persons from certain offices. Rep. Lisa Benlon seconded and motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 3, 1997.

GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION & ELECTIONS
COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

DATE: JANUARY 27, 1997

NAME	REPRESENTING
Brad Bryant	Sec. of state
Brent Anderson	Gov's. office
C Williams	KCGSC
Charlie Smithson	KLGSC
Jim Wagner	Hanna

STATE OF KANSAS

J. R. (JACK) WEMPE
REPRESENTATIVE, ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH DISTRICT
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HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
MEMBER: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
TAXATION
SELECT COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION
JOINT COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

January 27, 1997

Testimony -- House Bill 2023

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee.

This bill relates to a requirement that township clerks maintain a bond in the amount of 300.00. It was established prior to the turn of the century and was referenced in 1923. It would appear to be obsolete and of little use in 1997. While the fiscal note is not large, it represents simply a hassle for townships with little redeeming benefit.

I request its removal from the statute books with perhaps consideration of making it effective with publication in the Register.

Thank you

House Governmental Organization
and Elections

Attachment 1
1-27-97

Office of the Secretary of State
1997 Elections Legislation List
January, 1997

Voter Registration

1. Clarify when applicant is considered registered (KSA 25-2309(e))
2. Late registration hours no longer required in cities before elections (KSA 25-2311(d))

Candidates/Campaigns

3. Publication to presidential candidates not required (KSA 25-105)
4. Earlier deadline for ballot access mandamus actions (KSA 25-308(f))
5. Prevent placeholder candidates (KSA 25-306b, -309, -310)
6. Allow independent DA candidates to file at regular independent candidate deadline (KSA 22a-102)
7. Allow independent state board of education candidates to file at regular independent candidate deadline (KSA 25-1903)
8. Give Secretary of State authority to determine validity of certificates of nomination filed by minor parties (KSA 25-308(a), (b))

Constitutional Amendment

9. Propose constitutional amendment to end census adjustment (KS Constitution Art. 10 Sec. 1)