

Approved: 2-7-97  
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 February 5, 1997 in Room 521-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

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: Brad Bryant, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Elections & Legislative Matters

Elizabeth Ensley, Election Commissioner, Shawnee County  
Election Office

Others attending: See attached list

Chairperson Glasscock informed the Committee that Subcommittees will be meeting next week on Monday and Friday. The full Committee will meet Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday. The Minutes for the February 3, 1997 meeting were distributed. Representative Herman Dillon moved, and Representative Deena Horst seconded the motion that the Minutes be approved. Motion passed.

Chairperson Glasscock asked Mary Galligan, Research Department, to give a brief overview on HCR 5005.

**HCR 5005 - Constitutional amendment relating to adjustment of census for reapportionment of house of representatives and senate.**

Mary Galligan said that HCR 5005 amends the article of the constitution that prescribes when legislative districts are redrawn in Kansas and takes out some language that is no longer necessary.

Representative Ted Powers asked how often this occurs, and she said it would reoccur every 10 years.

Representative Gwen Welshimer asked if this included military personnel, and the answer was "yes."

The Chair recognized Brad Bryant, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, who spoke as a proponent for HCR 5005. He said that HCR 5005 proposes to amend the Kansas Constitution to end the practice of adjusting the federal census for purposes of reapportionment of state legislative districts. (Attachment 1.)

Representative Larry Campbell asked that since it costs about \$300,000.00 to do all the adjustments, was it really worth the cost? Brad Bryant answered that the adjustment did not have much effect on the apportionment of political power among the regions of the state.

Representative Ralph Tanner clarified that there was no intentional errors, but that it just doesn't work very well.

Chairperson Glasscock summarized by saying that 1) it costs a lot, 2) Process is not perfect and is the nature of the mandate which did not work, and 3) the end result was that the adjustment did not have much effect.

Since there were no additional conferees, Chairperson Glasscock announced the Public Hearing on HCR 5005 was closed.

The Chair opened the Public Hearing on HB 2114.

**HB 2114 -Voter registration; when registration becomes effective; after-hours registration.**

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION & ELECTIONS, Room 521-S Statehouse, at 9:00 a.m. on February 5, 1997.

Brad Bryant testified in favor of **HB 2114** and explained that the bill concerns voter registration, and it arises from the implementation of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 which was fully implemented in Kansas in 1996. First, he said this bill would clarify when a person is considered officially registered as a voter, and second, the National Voter Registration Act increases the opportunity to register to vote. He said that without this legislation, it is unclear when a person is officially registered, especially when the person signs a petition. (Attachment 2.)

The Chair next recognized Elizabeth Ensley who was representing the County Clerks Association. She spoke in favor of **HB 2114** and said that she liked the bill because it defines when a person can register for running for office.

Chairperson Glasscock closed the Public Hearing on **HB 2114**.

The Chair asked for the Committee's pleasure concerning **HB 2114**.

Representative Jonathan Wells moved that **HB 2114** be passed out favorably and since it was non-controversial that it be placed on the Consent Calendar. Representative David Haley seconded, and motion passed.

A brief discussion was held concerning **HCR 5006** which the Committee will be hearing Thursday, February 6, 1997. Several members asked for a copy of the Consolidation Recommendations by Wyandotte County/Kansas City Consolidation Study Commission.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 6, 1997.

GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION & ELECTIONS  
COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

DATE: FEBRUARY 5, 1997

NAME	REPRESENTING
Brad Bryant	Sec of state
Elizabeth Ensley	KS Co Clerks
Chuck Knapp	S O S
K. Shortle	SRS

Ron Thornburgh  
Secretary of State



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300 S.W. 10th Ave.  
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(913) 296-4564

## STATE OF KANSAS

### House Committee on Governmental Organization and Elections

#### Testimony on HCR 5005

Brad Bryant, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State  
Elections and Legislative Matters

February 5, 1997

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for your consideration of HCR 5005, which was proposed by the Secretary of State.

This resolution proposes to amend the Kansas Constitution to end the practice of adjusting the federal census for purposes of reapportionment of state legislative districts. The amendment to require the adjustment was passed in 1988 and has been used once to adjust the 1990 U.S. census, and the adjusted figures were used to redistrict the state legislature in 1992.

The cost of the adjustment was slightly more than \$300,000, and the adjustment had little effect on the apportionment of political power among the regions of the state.

We know of no other state that adjusts the federal census as Kansas does, and we request that the Legislature reconsider the policy and allow the voters of the state the opportunity to change it.

Thank you for your consideration.

House GO and E  
Attachment 1  
2.5.97

# 1990 CENSUS


# ADJUSTMENT


EXAMPLE  
 14,638 = 1990 U.S. Census  
 +55 = Net Adjustment  
 14,693 = Adjusted 1990 Total

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 +55 = Net Adjustment  
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3,243 +72 3,315	3,404 +70 3,474	4,021 +92 4,113	5,947 +146 6,093	6,590 +123 6,713	5,078 +86 5,164
Cheyenne	Rawlins	Decatur	Norton	Phillips	Smith
6,926 +110 7,036	8,258 -173 8,085	3,043 +108 3,151	3,543 +74 3,617	6,039 +110 6,149	4,867 +102 4,969
Sherman	Thomas	Sheridan	Graham	Rooks	Osborne
1,821 +44 1,865	3,081 +68 3,149	3,231 +91 3,322	3,694 +80 3,774	26,004 -1,450 24,554	7,835 +102 7,944
Wallace	Logan	Gove	Trego	Ellis	Russell
1,774 +26 1,800	2,758 +60 2,818	5,289 +120 5,409	2,375 +45 2,420	4,033 +93 4,126	3,842 +81 3,923
Greeley	Wichita	Scott	Lane	Ness	Rush
2,388 +41 2,429	4,027 +71 4,098	33,070 +5 33,075	2,177 +50 2,227	7,555 +129 7,684	5,365 +104 5,469
Hamilton	Kearny	Finney	Hodgeman	Pawnee	Stafford
2,333 +54 2,387	7,159 +86 7,245	3,886 +72 3,958	5,396 +88 5,484	27,463 -222 27,241	9,702 -67 9,635
Stanton	Grant	Haskell	Gray	Ford	Prairie
3,480 +46 3,526	5,048 +83 5,131	18,743 +60 18,803	4,247 +74 4,321	2,418 +50 2,468	2,313 +60 2,373
Morton	Stevens	Seward	Meade	Clark	Comanche
					5,874 +101 5,975
					Barber

4,251 +87 4,338	6,482 +142 6,624	7,073 +146 7,219	11,705 +232 11,937	10,446 +256 10,702	11,128 +169 11,297	8,134 -175 7,959
Jewell	Republic	Washington	Marshall	Nemaha	Brown	Doniphan
7,203 +165 7,368	11,023 -169 10,854	9,158 +51 9,209	67,139 -19,131 48,008	16,128 +73 16,201	11,525 +213 11,738	16,932 -210 16,722
Mitchell	Cloud	Clay	Riley	Pottawatomie	Jackson	Atchison
3,653 +78 3,731	5,634 +95 5,729	18,958 +129 19,087	30,453 -4,622 25,831	6,603 +79 6,682	160,976 +871 161,847	15,905 +239 16,144
Lincoln	Ottawa	Dickinson	Geary	Wabaunsee	Shawnee	Leavenworth
6,586 +142 6,728	49,301 +491 49,792	6,198 +48 6,246	3,021 +41 3,062	15,248 +226 15,474	81,798 -12,038 69,760	64,371 -3,152 61,219
Ellsworth	Saline	Morris	Chase	Osage	Douglas	Wyandotte
10,610 -70 10,540	27,268 -456 26,812	12,888 -81 12,807	50,580 +133 50,713	8,404 +129 8,533	21,994 +42 22,036	161,993 +578 162,571
Rice	McPherson	Marion	Lyon	Franklin	Johnson	
62,389 +180 62,569	31,028 -238 30,790	403,662 -1,725 401,937	3,062	7,803 +115 7,918	353,054 +4,885 357,939	
Reno	Harvey	Butler	Greenwood	Coffey	Anderson	Miami
8,292 +163 8,455	3,787 +59 3,846	7,847 +102 7,949	4,116 +50 4,166	21,994 +42 22,036	8,254 +92 8,346	23,466 +285 23,751
Kingman	Edwards	Woodson	Allen	Linn	Bourbon	
7,124 +105 7,229	3,660 +60 3,720	10,289 +131 10,420	17,035 +124 17,159	14,638 +57 14,695	14,966 -22 14,944	
Harper	Kiowa	Wilson	Neosho	Crawford	Cherokee	
	25,841 +278 26,119	3,327 +50 3,377	38,816 +183 38,999	23,693 +98 23,791	21,374 +125 21,499	
	Sumner	Elk	Montgomery	Labette		
		4,407 +56 4,463				
		Cowley	Chautauqua			
		36,915 -96 36,819				

 Counties with net loss of population after adjustment

 Counties with net loss of population after adjustment

1-2

Ron Thornburgh  
Secretary of State



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## STATE OF KANSAS

### House Committee on Governmental Organization and Elections

#### Testimony on HB 2114

Brad Bryant, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State  
Elections and Legislative Matters

February 5, 1997

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for your consideration of HB 2114, which was proposed by the Secretary of State. We urge the committee to report this bill favorably for passage.

This bill concerns voter registration, and it arises from the implementation of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA), which was fully implemented in Kansas in 1996 as a result of state legislation passed that year. The bill would accomplish two things.

Section 1 would amend K.S.A. 25-2309 to clarify when a person is considered officially registered as a voter. Before passage of the NVRA legislation, the law said a person who had applied for voter registration was not considered registered until the applicant had received a certificate of registration in the mail from the county election officer. This provision was repealed because the NVRA specifies different list maintenance procedures to be followed by the county election officer.

Without this legislation, it is unclear when a person is officially registered, especially when the person signs a petition. Under the NVRA anyone may distribute voter registration applications, and they sometimes distribute them as they circulate petitions. Most petitions require signers to be registered voters, thus a question has arisen as to when the applicant is to be considered registered. This legislation would mean a person would not be registered and could not sign a petition until the registration application had been received and processed by the county election officer and the person's name added to the county registration list.

House GO and E  
Attachment 2  
2.5.97

**Corporations** (913) 296-4564  
FAX (913) 296-4570

**Elections** (913) 296-4561  
**Administration** (913) 296-0498  
FAX (913) 291-3051

**UCC** (913) 296-3650  
FAX (913) 296-3659

Section 2 would amend K.S.A. 25-2311 to remove the requirement that county election offices and first and second class city offices remain open extra hours for voter registration during the last few days before registration cuts off before an election. Implementation of the NVRA has expanded opportunities to register to vote so that the pre-election peaks have begun to level out. Most of those who do register immediately before the deadline do not register at the county or city offices, and we see no reason to require them to stay open extra hours. As drafted, the bill would allow, but not require, extra registration hours if needed.

Thank you for your consideration.