

Approved: 3-26-98
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT.

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairperson Joann Freeborn at 3:30 p.m. on March 16, 1998 in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Rep. Steve Lloyd - excused
Rep. Richard Alldritt - excused
Rep. Peggy Palmer - excused
Rep. Tom Sloan - excused

Committee staff present: Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department
Hank Avila, Legislative Research Department
Mary Torrence, Revisor of Statutes
Mary Ann Graham, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Representative Laura McClure

Others attending: See attached list

Chairperson Joann Freeborn called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. She announced that the committee will be working HB2499 and SB483. She opened the floor for comments on HB2499.

HB2499: **An act concerning controlled shooting areas; relating to the total licensed acreage in any county; amending K.S.A. and repealing the existing section.**

Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department, explained the bill.

Chairperson Freeborn asked Steve Williams, Secretary, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, who was in attendance, to respond to questions raised by committee members. He stated that there are about a total of 87,000 acres of controlled shooting areas in the state, with approximately 100 shooting areas. The current law permits 2% of acreage to be used for this purpose, the new legislation will allow that to be increased to 3%. Controlled shooting operators raise their own birds to be used in the shooting areas, they are generally released within 24 hours before a hunting party takes place. The controlled areas have an extended season, September 1 through March 31.

Rep. Becky Hutchins made a motion to pass HB2499 favorably and place on consent calendar. Rep. Eber Phelps seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Chairperson opened the floor for discussion on SB483.

SB483: **An act concerning solid waste; authorizing disposal of certain wastes without a permit; amending K.S.A. 1997 Supp. 65-3407c and repealing the existing section.**

Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department, explained the bill. Discussion followed.

Rep. David Huff made a motion to pass SB483 favorably. Seconded by Rep. Laura McClure.

Rep. Dan Johnson made a motion to add conceptual amendments to SB483. No action taken.

Rep. David Huff made a motion to withdraw motion. Rep. Laura McClure did not withdraw her second. Motion carried.

The Chairperson opened public hearing on HCR5048.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT, Room 526-S Statehouse, at 3:30 p.m. on March 16, 1998.

HCR5048: **A concurrent resolution urging the United States Environment Protection Agency to perform uniform assessments of water quality and urging the Congress to modify the Clean Water Act.**

Mary Torrence, Revisor of Statutes explained the bill. Discussion and questions followed.

Karl Mueldener, Director, Bureau of Water, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, was in attendance and asked by the Chairperson to respond to questions from committee members. He discussed the similarities between other states monitoring systems for water quality and those of Kansas. He also addressed the issue which changes the time line for doing the assessments from two to five years.

The Chairperson recognized Rep. Laura McClure. She addressed the committee on the issue of water quality testing. She stated that Kansas wants to make it very clear to the Environment Protection Agency that we do not want to reduce the number of tests being done, but would like to encourage them to use uniform assessment methodologies so each state's 305-B reports will be equal by comparison.

Chairperson Freeborn closed the hearing on **HCR5048**. She announced that bill may have possible action in tomorrow's meeting, March 17. Also **SB523** will have a hearing and possible action in the March 17 meeting. Minutes for committee meetings of February 9, 11, 16, 17, 18, and 19, have been distributed for the committee to review and submit corrections if necessary.

The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 17, 1998.

