

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE TOURISM COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Barbara P. Allen at 1:30 p.m. on February 12, 1998 in Room 522-S-of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Rep. Adkins - excused  
Rep. Benlon - excused  
Rep. O'Neal - excused  
Rep. Presta - excused

Committee staff present: Tom Severn, Legislative Research Department  
Mark Burenheide, Legislative Research Department  
Renaë Jefferies, Revisor of Statutes  
Nancy Kirkwood, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Proponents:  
Lt. Gov. Gary Sherrer, Secretary, KDOCH  
Phil Frick, Chairman, Board of Trustees, Exploration Place, Inc., Wichita  
Michelle Boyd, Director of Public Relations and Membership, Wichita  
Becky Blake, President, Travel Industry Association of Kansas (TIAK)  
Rep. Sloan  
Mr. Clint Riley, Assistant Attorney for Wildlife & Parks  
T. J. Hittle, Resident, Manhattan, Kansas  
Wendy Harms, Associate Director, Legislative Services, Aggregate Producers Assn.  
Dave Murphy, President, Kansas Canoe Association  
Spencer Tomb, Chair of Issues & Actions Committee, Kansas Wildlife Federation

Others attending: See attached list

Chairperson Allen opened the meeting hearing **HB 2764** - Tourism fund.

Chairperson Allen requested Tom Severn, Research, to give an explanation on **HB 2764 (Attachment 1)**.

Secretary Gary Sherrer was recognized by Chairperson Allen, presented testimony in support of **HB2764 (Attachment 2)**.

Chairperson Allen recognized Phil Frick, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Exploration Place, the new science center and children's museum currently under construction in Wichita, who appeared before the committee in support of **HB2764 (Attachment 3)**

Michelle Boyd, Director of Public Relations & Membership, Wichita Convention and Visitors Bureau, was recognized by Chairperson Allen as a supporter of **HB2764 (Attachment 4)**.

Chairperson Allen recognized Becky Blake, President, TIAK, who stated TIAK supports **HB2764 (Attachment 5)**

There being no other conferees, Chairperson Allen closed the hearing on **HB 2764 - tourism fund.**

Chairperson Allen brought the committee's attention to open the hearing on **HB 2716 - canoeing permit required for canoeing on certain waters.**

Rep. Sloan, recognized by Chairperson Allen, furnished the committee with testimony supporting **HB 2716** and a balloon version that would resolve the legality of the funding issue, and allow canoeists and the

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE TOURISM COMMITTEE, Room 522-S Statehouse, at 1:30 p.m. on February 12, 1997.

Department of Wildlife & Parks, to move forward to enhance the State's recreational opportunities  
**(Attachment 6)**

Written testimony from Rep. Laura McClure was passed out to the committee in support of **HB 2716**  
**(Attachment 7)**

Chairperson Allen recognized Clint Riley, Assistant Attorney for Wildlife & Parks, who provided neutral testimony for the committee on **HB 2716 (Attachment 8)**

H. J. Hittle appeared before the committee as a proponent of **HB 2716 (Attachment 9)**

Wendy Harms, Associate Director, Legislative Services, Aggregate Producers Assn., was recognized by Chairperson Allen and spoke in support of **HB2716 (Attachment 10)**

Chairperson Allen recognized Dave Murphy, President of the Kansas Canoe Association, as a proponent  
**(Attachment 11)**

Spencer Tomb, Kansas Wildlife Federation, was recognized by Chairperson Allen and presented testimony in support of **HB 2716 (Attachment 12)**

With no further conferees the public hearing was closed.

Chairperson Allen informed the committee due to time and the number of conferees today, **HB2674 - raising age for exemption from park and recreation motor vehicle permit** would not be heard today. The hearing would be moved to Monday, February 16th.

Chairperson Allen brought the committee's attention to **HCR 5024 - designating the square dance as the official state folk dance of Kansas and the polka as a state ethnic dance. Rep. Shriver made a motion to put HCR 5024 on the consent calendar. A second by Rep. E. Peterson. The motion carries.**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 16, 1998.

# SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON TOURISM GUEST LIST

DATE: Thursday Feb 12

| NAME              | REPRESENTING                    |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| John Frederick    | Becum                           |
| Chad Luce         | KDWP                            |
| Ann B. Luce       | Intern - Allen                  |
| Alex Kobyanetz    | Junction City - Geary Co. CVB   |
| Genara Fortner    | KSNA -                          |
| Woody Moses       | Ks. Agg. Prod. Assn.            |
| Wendy Thomas      | KS Adipose Producers Assn.      |
| Cindy Lash        | Prairie Packers                 |
| Ige Queal         | self                            |
| TJ Hittle         | Friends of the Kaw              |
| Spencer Tomb      | KS Wildlife Federation          |
| Ramon Powers      | Kansas State Historical Society |
| Norine Kruse      | KDOC+H                          |
| Michelle Boyd     | Wichita Conu. & Vis. Bureau     |
| Kare Murphy       | Kansas Canoe Association        |
| Eddy Beard        | self                            |
| L. Dottie Huffman | Arkansas River Coalition        |
| Clint Riley       | KDWP                            |
| Phil Frick        | Exploring Place                 |

# SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON TOURISM GUEST LIST

DATE: Thursday Feb 12

| NAME        | REPRESENTING |
|-------------|--------------|
| Becky Blake | TIAK         |
| Jean Barber | TIAK         |
| J Mc Clell  | 119th Dist   |
| Dick Cantor | TIAK         |
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# Gaming Revenues

The State Gaming Revenues Fund receives transfers from certain receipts generated by the Kansas Lottery and the Kansas Racing and Gaming Commission. Transfers are then made from the gaming fund for economic development initiatives, prison construction and maintenance projects, and local juvenile detention facilities. Transfers are also made to the State General Fund.

Transfers from the State Gaming Revenues Fund are made based on a formula in statute. The current formula transfers 85.0 percent to the Economic Development Initiatives Fund (EDIF), 10.0 percent to the Correctional Institutions Building Fund (CIBF), and 5.0 percent to the Juvenile Detention Facilities Fund (JDF). Transfers for these purposes are limited to \$50.0 million in a given fiscal year. Any receipts above that amount that are credited to the State Gaming Revenues Fund are required to be transferred to the State General Fund in the fiscal year in which the revenues are received.

The amounts transferred to the State Gaming Revenues Fund from the Kansas Lottery and the Kansas Racing and Gaming Commission relate not only to gaming activity but also to the cost of financing the activities of these agencies. All operating costs of the Kansas Lottery and the Kansas Racing and Gaming Commission are funded by their respective gaming revenues, and remaining balances are transferred to the State Gaming Revenues Fund.

The monthly transfer to the State Gaming Revenues Fund from the Kansas Lottery is designated to be any money in excess of what is needed for operation of the Lottery, or 30.0 percent of net sales, whichever is greater. Receipts from racing activities are determined monthly by the Executive Director of the Racing Commission. Excess receipts contained in the State Racing Fund, as determined by the Executive Director of the Racing and Gaming Commission and the Director of Accounts and Reports, are transferred to the State Gaming Revenues Fund. This process takes into consideration such factors as adequate fund balances, encumbrances, anticipated revenues, and actual revenues and expenditures to date. For FY 1998

and FY 1999, the Racing and Gaming Commission anticipates transferring all revenues in excess of \$300,000 each month.

Prior to FY 1997, transfers from the Gaming Revenues Fund have been made at the beginning of a given fiscal year, and they have been based on the revenues generated in the previous fiscal year. Therefore, revenues funding the \$10.5 million transfer in FY 1997 noted in the following table, were actually generated by FY 1996 activities.

| <b>Gaming Revenues Fund</b>   |          |          |          |
|-------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| <i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> |          |          |          |
|                               | FY 1997  | FY 1998  | FY 1999  |
| <b>Transfers In:</b>          |          |          |          |
| Lottery                       | \$56,496 | \$57,031 | \$56,119 |
| Racing & Gamin                | 1,550    | 1,274    | 745      |
| Total                         | \$58,046 | \$58,305 | \$56,864 |
| <b>Transfers Out:</b>         |          |          |          |
| EDIF                          | \$42,500 | \$42,500 | \$42,500 |
| JDF                           | 2,500    | 2,500    | 2,500    |
| CIBF                          | 5,000    | 5,000    | 5,000    |
| SGF (Prior Year)              | 10,468   | --       | --       |
| SGF (Current Year)            | 8,046    | 8,305    | 6,864    |
| Total                         | \$68,514 | \$58,305 | \$56,864 |

The 1996 Legislature changed the transfer process so that revenues gained in a given fiscal year are transferred during that year. The State General Fund transfer is unusually large in FY 1997 because a \$10.5 million transfer from FY 1996 was made at the beginning of FY 1997. In accordance with the new methodology, a transfer of \$8.0 million was made at the end of FY 1997. Accordingly, in the Gaming Revenues Fund table above, the \$6.8 million State General Fund transfer projected for FY 1999 reflects the amount of revenues deposited in the Gaming Revenues Fund during FY 1999, minus \$50.0 million in combined transfers to the Economic Development Initiatives Fund, Correctional Institutions Building Fund, Juvenile Detention Facilities Fund.

House Tourism  
02-12-98  
Attachment 1

STATE OF KANSAS



GARY SHERRER  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

## House Committee on Tourism

Testimony of Lieutenant Governor/Secretary  
Department of Commerce & Housing  
Gary Sherrer

February 12, 1998

Chairperson Allen and members of the committee, I am here in support of the state tourism fund (HB2350). As I mentioned in previous testimony, the foundation of enhanced tourism is the strengthening of our existing attractions and the development of new ones. To achieve a new level of quality and quantity of tourist attractions in Kansas, more financial resources must be diverted to reach that level. A state fund that requires local matching will significantly enhance this effort. While I would be pleased if we could achieve the original goal of \$5 million dollars a year, I think the political and fiscal reality requires a less ambitious proposal. Therefore, I suggest that 25% of the dollars transferred from the gaming funds to the state general fund be dedicated over the next four years to the State Tourism Fund. By doing this we would simply be saying that 25 cents of every dollar from lottery proceeds that are transferred to the state general fund be utilized to build the state's tourist industry. A modest investment that will pay significant dividends to Kansas. By doing a percentage rather than a fixed amount, we ensure that gaming dollars will go to the state general fund and not be totally consumed by the State Tourism Fund. This is an excellent use of lottery proceeds and a modest proposal to enhance tourism development.

Members of the committee, I would like to take this opportunity to suggest changes in various legislation that relates to the issue of tourist attraction development.

### House Bill 2350

- ◆ I recommend (d) of Section 1 be deleted. This is just too much bureaucracy. To wait from June of one year until April of the next year to obtain final approval for grants makes no sense. There are six legislators on the council, so there will be adequate legislative input. Agencies throughout the state, including KDOCH, routinely make grant and financial decisions far beyond the level of those that would be made by this fund. There is no need to have 165 people appropriating a \$65,000 grant.

House Tourism  
02-12-98  
Attachment 2

- ◆ I recommend that (b) of Section 2 be amended. There will be disagreement, I am sure; but, as Secretary of an agency, it is important that authority comes with responsibility. My career in the private sector and my three years of government service have convinced me that diffused authority weakens accountability, and responsibility without authority weakens effectiveness. Please set policy, please advise (as the council will do), but please let Secretaries run their agencies.
- ◆ I recommend support of the Kansas Inc. findings of the need to amend K.S.A. 74-5090.
- ◆ I recommend the deletion of K.S.A. 74-5091. With the passage of HB2350, K.S.A. 74-5091 is no longer relevant or needed, and if it remains in the statues, it will create unnecessary confusion.

Members of the Tourism Committee, I want to commend you for the significant focus and support your efforts have brought to tourism in Kansas. Your work has been productive, and the results will certainly benefit tourism development, the economy of Kansas, and our quality of life.

CHAPTER 171  
HOUSE BILL No. 2350

AN ACT relating to travel and tourism; concerning certain proposals; establishing a state tourism fund; amending K.S.A. 74-9001 and K.S.A. 1996 Supp. 74-9002 and repealing the existing sections.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

New Section 1. (a) There is hereby established in the state treasury the state tourism fund. All moneys credited to the state tourism fund shall only be used for expenditures for the purposes of developing new tourism attractions in Kansas and to significantly expand existing tourism attractions in Kansas. Both public and private entities shall be eligible to apply for funds under the provisions of this act.

(b) The secretary of commerce and housing shall administer the provisions of this act. The secretary may adopt rules and regulations establishing criteria for obtaining grants and other expenditures from such fund and other matters deemed necessary for the administration of this act.

(c) All expenditures from such fund shall be made in accordance with appropriation acts upon warrants of the accounts and reports issued pursuant to vouchers approved by the secretary of commerce and housing or the secretary's designee.

(d) The secretary of commerce and housing shall prepare and submit budget estimates for all proposed expenditures from the state tourism fund in accordance with the provisions of K.S.A. 75-3717, and 75-3717b and amendments thereto. Such budget estimates shall include detailed information regarding all proposed expenditures for programs, projects, activities and other matters and shall set forth separately each program, project, activity or other expenditure for which the proposed expenditures from the state tourism fund for a fiscal year are for an amount that is equal to \$50,000 or more. Appropriations for the department of commerce and housing of moneys in the state tourism fund for each program, project, activity or other expenditure for a fiscal year for an amount that is equal to \$50,000 or more shall be made as a separate item of appropriation.

*eliminate*

(e) The legislature shall approve or disapprove of any itemized expenditure from the state tourism fund.

(f) On or before the 10th of each month, the director of accounts and reports shall transfer from the state general fund to the state tourism fund established in subsection (a) interest earnings based on:

- (1) The average daily balance of moneys in the state tourism fund for the preceding month; and
- (2) the net earnings rate of the pooled money investment portfolio for the preceding month.

New Sec. 2. (a) The council on travel and tourism, established under K.S.A. 74-9001, and amendments thereto, shall oversee all matters concerning the state tourism fund and expenditures therefrom.

(b) The council, by a majority vote, shall determine for inclusion in the department of commerce and housing budget expenditures from the state tourism fund.

*with final approval by the secretary of commerce & housing.*

*→ recommend*



- \* **Amend K.S.A. 74-5090 to clarify that final approval and award of tourism attraction grants is vested in the Secretary of Commerce & Housing.**

We support this recommendation from Kansas Inc. We hope that this committee will also consider supporting this recommendation.

- \* **Amend K.S.A. 74-5090 to remove the requirement that the Tourism Attraction Evaluation Committee provide technical advice upon request to any local tourist attraction on ways to improve its operation.**

Again, as above, we support this recommendation and ask the Committee to also support it. This is a very unreasonable commitment to ask of volunteers. They are already spending a great deal of time in evaluating the grant applications.

TOURISM AND TOURIST ATTRACTIONS  
MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM

**74-5089.** Matching grant program to assist tourism and tourist attractions development; eligibility; administration by secretary; rules and regulations. There is hereby established a state matching grant program to provide assistance in the promotion of tourism and development of quality tourist attractions within the state of Kansas. Grants awarded under this program shall be limited to not more than 40% of the cost of any proposed project. Any entity within the state which is exempt from taxation under the provisions of section 501(c)(3) of the federal internal revenue code of 1986 as in effect on January 1, 1990, or any public entity shall be eligible to apply for a grant under the provisions of this act. The secretary of commerce shall administer the provisions of this act and the secretary may adopt rules and regulations establishing criteria for qualification for a matching grant and such other matters deemed necessary by the secretary for the administration of this act.

History: L. 1990, ch. 284, § 1; July 1.

**74-5090.** Kansas tourist attraction evaluation committee; composition; organization; powers and duties. (a) There is hereby established the Kansas tourist attraction evaluation committee within the department of commerce. The committee shall consist of three members, all of whom shall have appropriate experience and expertise in the area of travel and tourism. The members of the committee shall be appointed by the secretary of commerce and shall serve at the secretary's pleasure.

+ housing ← (b) The committee shall screen, evaluate and approve or disapprove all applications for matching grants by those entities described in K.S.A. 74-5089 for the promotion of tourism and the development of tourist attractions in the state. The committee shall also provide technical advice upon request to any local tourist attraction upon ways to improve its operations.

(c) The director of travel and tourism development shall serve as a nonvoting chairperson of the committee and the committee shall annually elect a vice-chairperson from among its members. The committee shall meet upon call of the chairperson or upon call of any two of its members. Two voting members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

(d) All members of the committee shall serve without compensation or any other allowances authorized under the provisions of article 32 of chapter 75 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated.

History: L. 1990, ch. 284, § 3; July 1.

**74-5091.** Kansas tourist attraction matching grant development fund; administration; authorized uses; interest earned transferred from general fund. (a) There is hereby established the Kansas tourist attraction matching grant development fund in the state treasury. The Kansas tourist attraction matching grant development fund shall be administered by the secretary of commerce. All moneys in the Kansas tourist attraction matching grant development fund shall be used to provide matching grants to provide assistance in the promotion of tourism and the development of quality tourist attractions within this state in accordance with this act.

(b) All moneys received pursuant to subsection (c) of K.S.A. 74-5032a, and amendments thereto, shall be remitted to the state treasurer at least monthly and deposited in the state treasury to the credit of the Kansas tourist attraction matching grant development fund.

(c) On the 10th of each month, the director of accounts and reports shall transfer from the state general fund to the Kansas tourist attraction matching grant development fund, the amount of money certified by the pooled money investment board in accordance with this subsection. Prior to the 10th of each month, the pooled money investment board shall certify to the director of accounts and reports the amount of money equal to the proportionate amount of all the interest credited to the state general fund for the preceding period of time specified under this subsection, pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4210a, and amendments thereto, that is attributable to money in the Kansas tourist attraction matching grant development fund. Such amount of money shall be determined by the pooled money investment board based on:

(1) The average daily balance of moneys in the Kansas tourist attraction matching grant development fund during the period of time specified under this subsection as certified to the board by the director of accounts and reports; and

(2) the average interest rate on repurchase agreements of less than 30 days duration entered into by the pooled money investment board for that period of time. On or before the fifth day of the month for the preceding month, the director of accounts and reports shall certify to the pooled money investment board the average daily balance of moneys in the Kansas tourist attraction matching grant development fund for the period of time specified under this subsection.

History: L. 1990, ch. 284, § 4; L. 1992, ch. 272, § 10; July 1.

February 12, 1998

## House Bill 2764 - Tourism Fund

### House Subcommittee on Tourism

My name is Phil Frick. I am appearing as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Exploration Place, the new science center and children's museum currently under construction in Wichita.

House Bill 2764 has the potential to have an economic impact on the State of Kansas greater than most people are aware. You have all recently received a preliminary report from Young, Nichols, Gilstrap, Inc., regarding a tourism strategy for Kansas. The final report is due to be delivered to you in March. The first page of that report states the reason for House Bill 2764, which is not "tourism" as such, but rather "tourism-related economic development." The draft report continues on page 3 to point out the mutually-beneficial impact tourism has on other forms of economic development such as luring new business and new workers to existing businesses in the state.

On page 5, the direct economic impact of increased tourism is succinctly stated. Depending on spending assumptions, an increase of

#### Board of Trustees

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Donald J. Ablah, *Vice Chairman*  
Richard A. Fortner, C.P.A., *Treasurer*  
Ron Holt, *Secretary*  
Duane J. Buckley  
John C. Clevenger  
Frank X. Clifford  
Ernest W. Crow, M.D.  
Daniel E. Foley  
Betsy Gwin, *County Commissioner*  
W. Daniel Heidt  
William G. Hendrix  
M. Claradine Johnson, Ph.D., *School Board*  
Bob Knight, *Mayor*  
Marilyn B. Pauly  
D. Cramer Reed, M.D.  
Carol W. Rupe  
Jeffrey L. Turner  
Velma L. Wallace, *Honorary Trustee*

#### Campaign Steering Committee

**Honorary Chairs**  
Linda K. Graves, *First Lady*  
Velma L. Wallace

**Campaign Co-Chairs**  
Phillip S. Frick  
W. Daniel Heidt

**Committee Members**  
Donald J. Ablah  
Edward (Pete) Armstrong  
H. Marvin Bastian  
Fred Berry  
Duane J. Buckley  
Steven L. Clark  
Jack P. DeBoer  
Jill S. Docking  
Brenda Farha  
Richard A. Fortner, C.P.A.  
Andrew E. Gore  
John G. Himmel  
David L. Murfin  
Marilyn B. Pauly  
D. Cramer Reed, M.D.  
Clifford W. Stone  
Jeffrey L. Turner  
William G. Watson

House Tourism  
02-12-98  
Attachment 3



100,000 visitors has the potential to increase tourism's direct spending in Kansas by many millions of dollars annually. This is a significant economic impact.

Exploration Place is the perfect example of how funds utilized for tourism-enhanced economic development can work wonders. The strategic plan for Exploration Place includes a thorough analysis of the attendance potential and anticipates 1/3rd of the visitors qualifying as "tourists." Exploration Place will draw hundreds of thousands of visitors annually. It is therefore easy to see that Exploration Place will generate significant tourism dollars.

Exploration Place is under construction, and we expect opening two years from this month. It is a \$62-million project located on 20 acres of land along the Arkansas River in downtown Wichita. The building designed by internationally-known architect, Moshe Safdie, will be a landmark architectural statement for all of Kansas. The exhibits and programs presented will be cutting edge and unique. Approximately 80% of the funding is in hand. The balance of the funding must be raised in the next two years. Exploration Place is a real project with benefits that will soon be realized. It would be a most appropriate place for the State of Kansas through a Tourism Fund to inject some needed capital that could demonstrably and objectively be shown to produce a highly-leveraged economic impact for the State of Kansas.

Attachment II to the Tourism Strategy Report details a strategic tourism development program and establishes criteria for large projects such as Exploration Place. Exploration Place meets all of those criteria.

We support the establishment and funding of the Tourism Fund as an economic development tool for the State of Kansas, one where economic benefits can be relatively

easily reduced to objective data to prove that it really does work. Major Kansas employers such as The Boeing Company, Raytheon Aircraft, Koch Industries, Southwestern Bell, and Cargill, are all significant supporters of Exploration Place. The State of Kansas has recognized Exploration Place with a small tourism grant, and Linda Graves, First Lady of Kansas, is honorary co-chairman of the Capital Campaign Steering Committee. We all would look forward to the State of Kansas participating in Exploration Place through the Tourism Fund.

**WICHITA CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU  
TESTIMONY ON HB2764  
FEBRUARY 12, 1998**

**by Michelle Boyd, Director of Public Relations & Membership  
Wichita Convention & Visitors Bureau**

Thank you for the opportunity to come before you today in support of HB2764. I'm here as a representative of the Wichita Convention and Visitors Bureau and to express our support of the passage of house bill 2764. Our Bureau has always supported any initiative that would provide additional funding resources to the Kansas Department of Travel and Tourism. Wichita recognizes the importance of its visitors to our community and the new dollars that are left as a result of their expenditures. In Wichita, conventioners alone provide our community an annual return on its investment of at least \$27 to \$1. We feel in order to equip the State Travel and Tourism Division with the foundation necessary to perform its job effectively, more monies must be allocated for promotion. This bill provides that mechanism of funding. Any additional funds that could be generated to support this vital Kansas industry would be greatly appreciated by our bureau and the officers of our corporation. It is our opinion that one vital element of this bill resides in the fact that the \$5 m would be designated funds to the Dept. of Commerce and Housing. In closing, I would simply state that we join Lt. Gov. Gary Sherrer in support of this bill, and urge its passage.

House Tourism  
02-12-98  
Attachment 4



Travel  
Industry  
Association of  
Kansas

Jayhawk Tower  
700 S.W. Jackson St., Suite 702  
Topeka, Kansas 66603-3758  
913/233-9465 FAX 913/357-6629  
e-mail: barbee@inlandnet.net

## STATEMENT

**DATE: February 12, 1998**

**TO: House Committee on Tourism**

**FROM: Becky Blake, President**

**RE: Economic Development Initiatives Funds for tourism  
development (HB-2764)**

Madam Chairwoman and members of the committee, I am Becky Blake, President of the Travel Industry Association of Kansas (TIAK). TIAK is structured on a model of the Travel Industry Association of America. Membership includes convention and visitors bureaus, chambers, hotels and motels, attractions, regional promotional organizations, and businesses who service tourists and tourism promotion. Our ranks also include a variety of representatives from state agencies who are involved in the tourism industry in one way or another.

TIAK supports HB-2764. Last year when the Legislature appointed a Committee on Tourism in the House and a Transportation and Tourism Committee in the Senate, TIAK agreed with the Lieutenant Governor/Secretary of Commerce and with you that the first priority should be the development of a strategic plan for tourism. We are pleased that you have been presented a preliminary report by Doug Young and that you are considering this funding bill in response to your interim study and his recommendation.

We've always known that we have pass-through traffic. Some states spend millions just getting people to come to their state. We have visitors handed to us on an I-70 and I-35 platter. For that reason, we've put most of our leisure marketing resources into that pass-through market. This study suggests that the pass-through market is actually low-value and may be the cause of our weakness in the market share of leisure travel spending. We believe this 'market share' approach is how we must look at our future tourism development and marketing.

House Tourism  
02-12-98

Attachment 5

We must focus on building a sustainable competitive advantage in order to capture our market share of the business and leisure travel spending in this country. We are not talking about building mountains, digging the Grand Canyon, or competing with Florida and California to be the number one destination in America. We are simply talking about bringing our market share of dollars up to our market share of visitors. At \$262.5 each year for each 0.1 % increase in our market share, it IS worth our while to strategize.

We also agree with the report that an independent attraction needs to be developed. Maybe that will be the 'Hall of American Heroes.' Maybe it will be something else. It would take the private investment of millions of dollars to build the kind of attraction we envision. The first step would be a feasibility study at an approximate cost of \$50,000.

We have met with Governor Sherrer and we are pleased that he also sees the value in this report. He told us he envisions adding a staff position in the division of travel and tourism who would have the responsibility of assisting communities in tourism development.

Tourism IS economic development. Our position has always been that tourism development and marketing should be a higher priority in economic development funding. But as we testified earlier this year on the "Missouri plan", how funds are allocated is ultimately your decision as a Legislature. Our responsibility is simply to express to you our support for funding which can bring Kansas up to our market share of visitor dollars.



TOM SLOAN  
REPRESENTATIVE, 45TH DISTRICT  
DOUGLAS COUNTY

STATE CAPITOL BUILDING  
ROOM 446-N  
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612-1504  
(913) 296-7677  
1-800-432-3924  
  
772 HWY 40  
LAWRENCE, KANSAS 66049-4174  
(913) 841-1526



TOPEKA

HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES <sup>2716</sup>  
**TESTIMONY ON HB2617**

Thank you Madam Chairman, members of the Committee. HB2617 was introduced to solve two problems:

1. To resolve a conflict between the Department of Wildlife and Parks and certain of our Legislative colleagues, and
2. To identify a funding source to construct access facilities to the Kansas River for canoes, kayaks, and rafts.

As you undoubtedly know, there is general agreement that recreational access to the Kansas River should be substantially improved. The conflict has been between the Department's belief that such projects should be funded through the State Water Plan, and many Legislators belief that the most appropriate funding source is the boating fee fund. The Department argues that they cannot use the boating fee fund because canoeists do not pay into that fund and the department wants to avoid legal problems associated with funding ineligible projects with federal and state funds (division of funds).

To resolve this impasse and permit recreation opportunities to be enhanced, HB2617 requires canoes, kayaks, etc., used on the State's public waters, to be registered with the State. The registration fees will be deposited in the boating fee fund, thus, making canoe access projects eligible for funding from the fee fund.

Please note that HB2617 does not require registration of canoes, kayaks, jon boats, etc. not used on Kansas public waterways (e.g., farm ponds).

Passage of this bill will enhance recreational opportunities in Kansas at a nominal cost to participants. The Department and recreation enthusiasts have been working together to accomplish this commonly accepted goal as painlessly as possible. The result of their collaboration is a balloon-draft attached to my testimony for your review.

The proposed balloon version makes the Department's administrative responsibilities easier, resolves the legality of the funding issue, and allows canoeists and the Department to move forward to enhance the State's recreational opportunities.

House Tourism  
02-12-98

Attachment 6

## PROPOSED SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 2716

By

AN ACT concerning requiring registration of certain vessels; amending K.S.A. 32-1110, 32-1111 and 32-1172 and repealing the existing sections.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. K.S.A. 32-1110 is hereby amended to read as follows: 32-1110. Before January 1, 1999, every undocumented, mechanically propelled vessel or sailing vessel using the waters of this state shall be numbered, except those exempted by K.S.A. 32-1113 or 32-1166, and amendments thereto. On and after January 1, 1999, every vessel using the waters of this state shall be numbered, except those exempted by K.S.A. 32-1113 or 32-1166, and amendments thereto. No person shall operate or give permission for the operation of any motorboat or vessel propelled by sail on such waters unless such vessel is numbered in accordance with this act, applicable federal law or a federally approved numbering system of another state, and unless (1) the certificate of number awarded to such vessel is in full force and effect and (2) the identifying number set forth in the certificate of number is displayed on each side of the bow of such vessel, unless otherwise provided by rules and regulations of the secretary.

Sec. 2. K.S.A. 32-1111 is hereby amended to read as follows:

32-1111. (a) The owner of each vessel requiring numbering by this state shall file an application for number with the secretary on forms approved by the secretary. The application shall be signed by the owner of the vessel and shall be accompanied by the vessel registration fee prescribed pursuant to K.S.A. 32-1172 and amendments thereto ~~and~~. An application for a mechanically propelled vessel or sailing vessel shall be accompanied by proof of payment of any tax imposed under the provisions of K.S.A. 12-187, 12-198, the Kansas retailers' sales tax act or the Kansas compensating tax act, and amendments thereto, as the case requires, upon forms devised and furnished by the department of revenue to every county treasurer for such purpose. Upon receipt of the application in approved form and proof of payment of sales or compensating tax, the secretary shall enter the same upon the records of the department and issue to the applicant a certificate of number stating the number awarded to the vessel and the name and address of the owner. Unless otherwise provided by rules and regulations, the owner shall paint on or attach to each side of the bow of the vessel the identification number in such manner as prescribed by rules and regulations of the secretary in order that it may be clearly visible. The number shall be maintained in legible condition. The certificate of number shall be pocket size and, unless otherwise provided by rules and regulations, shall be available at all times for inspection on the vessel for which issued, whenever such vessel is in operation. No person charged with a violation of the

preceding sentence shall be convicted of such offense if such person produces in court or the office of the arresting officer a certificate of number issued and valid at the time of such person's arrest.

(b) The owner of any vessel already covered by a number in full force and effect which has been awarded to it pursuant to the then operative federal law or a federally approved numbering system of another state shall record the number prior to operating the vessel on the waters of this state in excess of the 60-day reciprocity period provided for in subsection (1) of K.S.A. 32-1113 and amendments thereto. Such recordation shall be in the manner and pursuant to the procedure required for the award of a number under this subsection, including the submission of proof of payment of sales or compensating tax, except that no additional or substitute number shall be issued.

(c) Should the ownership of a numbered vessel change, a new application form with fee and proof of payment of sales or compensating tax shall be filed with the secretary and a new certificate of number shall be awarded in the same manner as provided for in an original award of number, except that where the state of principal use remains unchanged the number may be identical with the previous one.

(d) If an agency of the United States government has in force an overall system of identification numbering for vessels within the United States, the numbering system employed pursuant to this act by the secretary shall be in conformity therewith.

(e) The secretary may award any certificate of number directly or may authorize any person to act as agent for the awarding thereof. If a person accepts such authorization, such person may be assigned a block of numbers and certificates therefor which upon award, in conformity with this act and with any rules and regulations of the secretary, shall be valid as if awarded directly by the secretary.

(f) All records of the secretary made or kept pursuant to this section shall be public records.

(g) Every certificate of number awarded pursuant to this act shall continue in full force and effect for a period of three years unless sooner terminated or discontinued in accordance with the provisions of this act. Certificates of number may be renewed by the owner in the same manner provided for in the initial securing of the number.

(h) The secretary shall fix a day and month of the year on which certificates of number due to expire during the calendar year shall lapse and no longer be of any force and effect unless renewed pursuant to this act.

(i) The owner shall furnish the secretary notice of the transfer of all or any part of such owner's interest other than the creation of a security interest in a vessel numbered in this state pursuant to subsections (a) and (b) or of the destruction or abandonment of such vessel within 15 days thereof. Such transfer, destruction, or abandonment shall terminate the certificate of number for such vessel and the certificate of

number shall be surrendered to the secretary as a part of the notification of transfer, destruction, or abandonment except, that in the case of a transfer of a part interest which does not affect the owner's right to operate such vessel, such transfer shall not terminate the certificate of number.

(j) Any holder of a certificate of number shall notify the secretary within 15 days if the holder's address no longer conforms to the address appearing on the certificate and shall, as a part of such notification, furnish the secretary with a new address. The secretary may provide by rules and regulations for the surrender of the certificate bearing the former address and its replacement with a certificate bearing the new address or for the alteration of an outstanding certificate to show the new address of the holder.

(k) No number other than the number awarded to a vessel or granted reciprocity pursuant to this act shall be painted, attached, or otherwise displayed on either side of the bow of such vessel.

(l) If a certificate of number becomes lost, destroyed, mutilated or illegible, the owner of the vessel for which the same was issued may obtain a duplicate of such certificate upon application therefor to the secretary. The application shall be in writing, shall describe the circumstances of the loss or destruction and shall be accompanied by the duplicate fee prescribed pursuant to K.S.A. 32-1172 and amendments thereto.

(m) The secretary is authorized, in the secretary's

discretion, to provide and have issued for vessels requiring registration and numbering under this act, a 30-day temporary registration permit for the temporary vessel registration fee prescribed pursuant to K.S.A. 32-1172 and amendments thereto.

Such permits shall be in the form as prescribed by the secretary and available for purchase or resale by any person designated by the secretary. In addition to the permit fee, any person selling such temporary permits may collect a service charge of not to exceed \$.50 for each permit issued.

Such temporary permit shall expire 30 days from the date of issuance.

(n) The secretary shall adopt, in accordance with K.S.A. 32-805 and amendments thereto, rules and regulations for the administration of the provisions of this section, including but not limited to numbering applications, certificates of number, temporary 30-day permits, display of number and reports on change of address, destruction and sale or transfer of ownership.

Sec. 3. K.S.A. 32-1172 is hereby amended to read as follows: 32-1172. (a) The secretary is authorized to adopt, in accordance with K.S.A. 32-805 and amendments thereto, rules and regulations fixing the amount of fees for the following items, subject to the following limitations and subject to the requirement that no such rules and regulations shall be adopted as temporary rules and regulations:

Duplicate registrations, certificates or permits: maximum \$10

Testing or demonstration boat registrations: minimum \$30, maximum

\$50

Additional registrations: minimum \$5, maximum \$10

Vessel registrations: minimum \$9, maximum \$18

Additional nonmechanically propelled, nonsailing vessel  
registrations: minimum \$2, maximum \$6

Temporary registrations: minimum \$2, maximum \$4

Water event permits: maximum \$50

Special departmental services, materials or supplies: no maximum

Sec. 4. K.S.A. 32-1110, 32-1111 and 32-1172 are hereby  
repealed.

Sec. 5. This act shall take effect and be in force from and  
after its publication in the statute book.



LAURA L. McCLURE  
202 SOUTH 4TH  
OSBORNE, KS 67473  
(913) 346-2715



TOPEKA

HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES

REPRESENTATIVE, 119TH DISTRICT  
STATE CAPITOL  
ROOM 278-W  
TOPEKA, KS 66612-1504  
(913) 296-7680  
1-800-432-3924

The Kansas River Recreation Study was conducted by the Kansas Department of Commerce & Housing, in conjunction with the Kansas Water Office, Kansas Geological Survey, Kansas Biological Survey and the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks. The study was carried out in compliance with SB 757, passed in 1996 by the Kansas Legislature.

The study identified the Kansas river as a vital but underdeveloped recreational and economic resource for the State of Kansas. The Kansas River Study Committee strongly urges the legislature to set aside a portion, or portions, of the Kansas River for exclusive recreational use. A three-step approach has been developed in response to this need.

The first step is to identify and establish specific corridors for recreation use. The second step is to provide physical access to these corridors. This involves the building of access ramps for input/take out in the river for boaters and canoers.

In order to implement this plan, the third step, providing funding to provide access, is crucial. Permitting fees for canoeing will help provide funding for access ramps, allowing us to develop the Kansas River as an important recreational resource.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laura McClure". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

House Tourism  
02-12-98  
Attachment 7



STATE OF KANSAS  
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE & PARKS

Office of the Secretary  
900 SW Jackson, Suite 502  
Topeka, KS 66612-1233  
785/296-2281 FAX 785/296-6953



Testimony on House Bill No. 2716

Presented to: House Committee on Tourism  
Provided by: Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks  
Date: February 12, 1998

HB 2716 would require that each individual canoeing waters of the state, other than on private waters as defined in the bill, obtain a \$10 canoeing permit issued by the department. The bill would exempt persons less than 16 or more than 65 years of age, and would allow for a special permit to be obtained by lessors and used by persons leasing a canoe. The bill would also specify that funds from the issuance of these permits would go to the Boating Fee Fund.

The department understands that the impetus behind HB 2716 is a desire for development of public access to Kansas waters for non-motorized watercraft such as canoes or kayaks. However, the department has some concerns with the bill in its current form, primarily regarding the permitting of individual canoeists, due to potential administrative and enforcement complications.

Consequently, the department supports the Proposed Substitute for HB 2716 that would use a boat registration system. Because the department currently registers motorized and sailing vessels, the addition of other boats to the system could be accomplished relatively simply, with comparatively minor increases in staff time and other department resources. Current law and regulation for boat registration includes provisions for dealer boat testing registration, water event permits, and the fact that registration is required only for boats used on public waters in Kansas.

The Proposed Substitute for HB 2716 would also apply the registration requirement to all non-motorized vessels, rather than only to canoes. The department understands that bill proponents support this change, and we believe this is administratively feasible.

The department also understands that bill supporters expect implementation of the Proposed Substitute for HB 2716 to include two changes to current department regulation: first, that K.A.R. 115-2-4 be amended to set the registration fee for non-motorized, non-sailing vessels at \$10, with additional registrations at \$4; and second, that K.A.R. 115-30-1 be amended to

House Tourism  
02-12-98  
Attachment 8

exempt such vessels from the requirement that three-inch numbers be placed on the vessel, but instead require that a smaller department-issued decal be required. The department would be willing to recommend these regulatory changes to the Wildlife and Parks Commission, which has statutory authority to change department regulations, should the Proposed Substitute for HB 2716 be passed by the Legislature. By law, a public hearing must be held for any proposed regulatory change, and bill proponents would therefore have the opportunity to attend and testify to the Commission concerning these regulatory actions.

In conclusion, the department does not oppose the Proposed Substitute for HB 2716. It believes the bill would be administratively feasible, and expects that it would address the goals of proponents of HB 2716, as we understand them.

Thank you for allowing testimony and public support of HB 2716 in its amended form on behalf of Friends of the Kaw and our 1600 supporters Statewide.

**T. J. Hittle** / 700 Gillespie Dr. /Manhattan, KS / (785)539-7772

Riley County property owner / Licensed Landscape Architect / President - Hittle Landscape Architects

Active member of Kansas Canoe Association(Past President and Distinguished Service recipient) , Friends of the Kaw(Board member), Flint Hills Sierra Club(Board member) , Ark. River Coalition, KNRC, Audubon, and nine other State, Regional, and National organizations that are actively involved in rivers and streams issues worldwide. During my river travels, on over 170 rivers and streams across seven countries, I have accumulated over 6,000 river miles. I have documented the greatest number of river miles paddled in the 23 year history of the Kansas Canoe Association.

If I were on this committee, I might be asking, "Why would any group be asking the State of Kansas to add another tax"? The answer is, "*We have a vision*". Twenty-three years ago, the Kansas Canoe Association was formed in order to gain access to floating the public waters through rivers and streams in Kansas. Today, only three public rivers that flow through or alongside Kansas are open to the public. The Kansas, the Arkansas, & the Missouri. Our river system in Kansas could be compared to a highway system that has no access roads. How well used would I-70 be if there were no accesses in Kansas City, Lawrence, Topeka, & Manhattan? How can we ask Kansans to stay home and enjoy our own rivers and streams when there is no adequate public access? Would you like to see how we typically access the namesake river of our great State? (photo (3) copies for Chr, Vice Chr, and Ranking minority)

*Our vision, coupled with the Legislative acceptance of the KDWP River Access Study as a part of the larger Kansas River Recreation Study, is that HB 2716 will allow the beginnings of the proposed construction of a badly needed system of river accesses. This will also begin to help turn the tragic tourism exodus of thousands of Kansans that drive elsewhere to enjoy the rivers of surrounding states. Just look at their system of river accesses and you don't have to ask why.*

*How has the public indicated support for water based recreational access?*

- 1) Through support and attendance of Kansas Water Authority meetings where water based recreation was prioritized in the top 10 water issues.
- 2) Through attendance and support of the many Basin Advisory Committee meetings that have supported water based recreation.
- 3) Through support and attendance of the many 5-State Agency *Kansas River Recreation Study* public meetings over the past two years.
- 4) Through letters to the editors of local newspapers all over Kansas.
- 5) Through turn-out and support of such great public events as last summer's *Rolling Down the River Festival* where over 400 individuals & families (and a few Legislators) from all over Kansas and 3 adjacent states were treated to an ol' fashioned canoe float on the Kansas River. They learned first hand about the geology, the biology and history along Kansas River.
- 6) Through the many letters and calls to Kansas Legislators each year for river access.
- 7) Through attendance and overwhelming public support of the Governor's Water Quality Initiative.
- 8) Through the growing memberships in the aforementioned recreational and natural resource clubs and organizations.
- 9) Through the support of businesses, cities, and counties along the river corridors of Kansas that will benefit economically from the infusion of the projected \$2.8 million, not including multiplier effects, by the State's own estimates, that river recreation will bring to Kansas. (attached copy of the Manhattan Chamber of Commerce Legislative policy)

I have been working with Rep. Sloan and the KDWP from the inception of HB 2716. I hope you will consider support of HB 2716, in its amended form. Thank you!

(The amendments and proposed regulation changes that are acceptable to KDWP to HB 2716 have primarily to do with changes in terminology from "canoes" to "non-motorized", registration designed to dovetail into the existing KDWP 3-yr motorized boat licensing program, considerations for outfitter and dealers, Special events, and an ability to accommodate the special requirements that apply to small craft.)

House Tourism  
02-12-98  
Attachment 9

MANHATTAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

1998  
LEGISLATION,  
POLICIES &  
POSITIONS



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**MANHATTAN**  
**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

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## NATURAL RESOURCES

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**NR-A Issue:** Recreational Access on Kansas River.

**Background:** The KDOC&H, Department of Wildlife and Parks, Kansas Water Office, Kansas Biological Survey and Kansas Geological Survey are conducting a study which will prioritize areas along the Kansas River that are suitable for recreational development. Outdoor recreation is a growing segment of this area's tourism industry and should be further developed. The Kansas River is one of the only public rivers in Kansas highly suitable to recreational canoeing and kayaking use.

**Position:** The Manhattan Chamber should support efforts to develop access on the Kansas River for recreational purposes.

**Action:** The Chamber should work with the above named state agencies, various local natural resource and recreation groups and individuals.

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**NR-B Issue:** Water Quality Standards.

**Background:** Water quality standards established by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment have been temporarily suspended by the Kansas legislature so as to determine whether communities can reasonably be expected to conform. The City of Manhattan will be able to meet the standards with its new waste water treatment facility. However, discharge limits may be imposed on businesses that could impact their future success.

**Position:** The Chamber position is that if new discharge limits are imposed that they be set at levels that assure public safety while allowing businesses to remain competitive.

**Action:** The Chamber will continue to monitor the progress of the Governor's task force on water quality and respond as necessary.

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**KAPA**

Kansas Aggregate  
Producers' Association

Edward R. Moses  
Managing Director

**Testimony**

**By**

**The Kansas Aggregate Producers' Association**

**Before the  
House Tourism Committee**

**Regarding HB 2716  
Canoe Permit Required For Canoeing on Certain Waters**

**February 12, 1998**

Good afternoon Madame Chair and members of the committee. Thank you for the opportunity to come before you with our comments on this issue. My name is Wendy Harms and I am appearing on the behalf of the Kansas Aggregate Producers' Association. The Kansas Aggregate Producers' Association is an industry-wide trade association comprised of over two hundred fifty (250) members located in all one hundred and sixty five (165) legislative districts in this state, providing basic building materials to all Kansans. We come before you today as proponents of HB 2716.

Later in this session, the legislature will be asked to consider dedication of vast stretches of the Kansas River for the exclusive use of recreation. If this were the case, then it would only make sense to provide the tools for accurately tracking the recreational activity. In our opinion HB 2716 requiring permits for canoes would be a step in that direction.

There is supposedly an increase number of Kansans who have become interested in water based recreation, canoe permits would allow for an accurate gage of those numbers. During the many debates, Kansas River groups such as the Kansas Canoe Association and Friends of the Kaw have suggested that the state of Kansas will generate a great amount of economic activity. Since setting aside part of the river may result in the loss of other economic activities, it is logical to provide the necessary means to measure the nature and extent of the economic contribution canoeing will make to Kansas.

To provide the means for accurate tracking of this activity, the committee may wish to consider broadening the language on page 2 line 15 – 17 to include studies of safety and recreational activity on the river. Attached to our testimony is the suggested text for this purpose.

Once again, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today. At this time, I will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

House Tourism  
02-12-98  
Attachment 10

1 Water event permits: maximum \$50  
 2 Special departmental services, materials or supplies: no maximum  
 3 Sec. 3. On and after January 1, 1999, K.S.A. 32-1173 is hereby  
 4 amended to read as follows: 32-1173. All moneys received pursuant to  
 5 K.S.A. 32-1101 through 32-1104, 32-1110 through 32-1113, 32-1119,  
 6 32-1125 through 32-1128, 32-1130 through 32-1137, 32-1148 through 32-  
 7 1155, 32-1166, 32-1172, 32-1173 ~~and~~, 32-1177 through 32-1180 *and sec-*  
 8 *tion 1*, and amendments thereto, shall be paid into the state treasury on  
 9 or before the 10th day of each month and the state treasurer shall credit  
 10 the entire amount to the boating fee fund, which is hereby created, to be  
 11 dedicated and used to administer and enforce the provisions of K.S.A.  
 12 32-1101 through 32-1104, 32-1110 through 32-1113, 32-1119, 32-1125  
 13 through 32-1128, 32-1130 through 32-1137, 32-1148 through 32-1155,  
 14 32-1166, 32-1172, 32-1173 ~~and~~, 32-1177 through 32-1180 *and section 1*,  
 15 and amendments thereto. When sufficient moneys are available from the  
 16 fees so collected, the secretary may use the same to construct or repair  
 17 boating facilities, ramps and docks at public waters within this state.  
 18 Sec. 4. K.S.A. 32-1172 and 32-1173 are hereby repealed.  
 19 Sec. 5. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its  
 20 publication in the statute book.

Amendment Proposed by:

Kansas Aggregate Producers' Association

or provide funding for the measuring and studying of  
 economic activity generated by canoeing.



# Kansas Canoe Association

Respected Representative:

My name is Dave Murphy. I am the president of the Kansas Canoe Association. I am here to represent their interests on H.B 2716.

Our members and their families support HB2716. We support the idea behind it and appreciate the effort that it will take on the part of Parks and Wildlife to modify their system of doing business and the hearings they will need to have to address the remaining concerns we have for the regulatory side of this issue. We are placing great faith in them to follow through with the promises they have made to us regarding this bill.

1. The next to the last paragraph says "KSA 32-1110, 1111 and 1172 are hereby repealed. I think the word should be "amended".
2. The impetus for this bill was the Kansas River, and lack of boater access to it

Historically, the Kansas Legislature has been reluctant to spend money on river access with the reasoning that non-motorized boats were not contributing to the boating fund that traditionally funded such things.

Participation by canoeists in this sort of registration system is not a new idea. We, as a group, have never been opposed to paying our fair share as long as we had a reasonable prospect of getting something in return that was worth having. On the other hand, access to an increasingly polluted river with ever worsening industrial blight was hardly worth paying for. That was the prospect until recently.

Although it is still one of the more threatened rivers in the country, it appears that there is indeed some hope for improvement on the horizon.

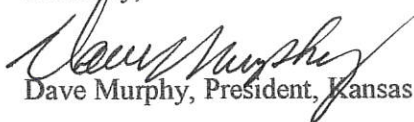
The prospect of a cleaner river has given us something worth hoping for and something worth paying for. We want access to a river in our own state that (someday) will be relieved the burdens of sand dredges, raw sewage, and preventable agricultural pollution.

These problems will not be solved with a single piece of legislation or a boat registration system. But, as more Kansans find relaxation and beauty on our Kansas rivers, more canoes will be bought, more tourism dollars will be spent, more businesses will flourish, more taxes will be raised and more river accesses will be built.

Some day, it is our hope, that we will have not just more public sentiment for cleaner rivers, but also a significant tax basis to support cleaner, more natural river systems.

In short, I am hoping that you will not pass up the chance to tax a willing citizen. Have a good day.☺

Sincerely,



Dave Murphy, President, Kansas Canoe Association

House Tourism  
02-12-98

# KANSAS WILDLIFE FEDERATION



4840 W. 15th, Lawrence, KS 66049-3876  
913/843-7786 • FAX: 913/843-7555  
Internet: [www.kswildlife.org](http://www.kswildlife.org)  
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Pure Water for Kansas • 800/593-7935

*The voice of outdoor Kansas*

February 12, 1998

## Testimony in Favor of House Bill 2716

By

Spencer Tomb

Vice President and Chair

KWF Issues and Actions Committee

The Kansas Wildlife Federation is a broad based conservation education organization dedicated to the sustained use of natural resources. We consist of 14 affiliate clubs and individual members with a total membership of about 2,000. We are the Kansas affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation.

We support H. B. 2716 as it is a user fee that dedicates the funds raised to benefits the user and provides access to public waters of Kansas. There are very few public access points to our navigable streams. We support this bill because it will increase access for paddlecraft, hunters and anglers. It will have a positive impact on stream based recreation and the communities where the access points are developed.

Attached to this statement you will find a copy of a resolution passed last weekend by the Federation supporting the establishment of this fee and dedicating these fund to additional access to our navigable streams.

The only changes in this bill that we suggest are that the age exemption at 65 (page 1, line 21) be eliminated or raised to 70. We would be more comfortable if the dedication of this fund for the creation of stream access for small canoes, kayaks and small boats was more clearly spelled out.

We ask that you recommend to the Kansas House that this bill be passed this session. We appreciate this opportunity to appear before the Tourism Committee and present our views.

Attachment: Kansas Wildlife Federation 1998 Resolution "Improving Access to Public Waters"

*House Tourism  
02-12-98  
Attachment 12  
Affiliate of National Wildlife Federation*

# **Kansas Wildlife Federation**

## **1998 RESOLUTION**

### **IMPROVING ACCESS TO PUBLIC WATERS**

**Whereas, the Missouri, Kansas and Arkansas Rivers are navigable streams in Kansas; and**

**Whereas, these streams are public waters for navigation and outdoor recreation, including boating, hunting and fishing; and**

**Whereas, the public access points to these streams are extremely limited; and**

**Whereas, the Department of Wildlife and Parks has initiated a Fishing Access Program, designed to gain public access to private waters in the state; and**

**Whereas, the Kansas Wildlife Federation is a non-profit organization dedicated to sustained wise use of our natural resources and the preservation of outdoor recreation opportunities for all Kansas citizens;**

**Now, Therefore Be It Resolved that the Kansas Wildlife Federation, assembled during its annual meeting February 6-7, 1998 in Manhattan, Kansas, encourages the Kansas Legislature to establish a paddle craft boating fee for use of public waters and designate the funds generated for increasing access for the recreational use, such as canoeing, kayaking, hunting and fishing, of our rivers and lakes; and**

**Be It Further Resolved, that the Kansas Wildlife Federation provide this resolution to the Governor of the State of Kansas, the Chairperson of the House Environmental Committee, the Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, and the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Parks.**