

Approved: 2-4-98
Date

MINUTES OF THE SENATE ELECTIONS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Janice Hardenburger at 1:30 p.m. on February 3, 1998 in Room 529-S of the Capitol.

All members were present:

Committee staff present: Dennis Hodgins, Legislative Research Department
Mike Heim, Legislative Research Department
Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes
Graceanna Wood, Committee Secretary

Conferee appearing before the committee: Carol Williams, Exec. Dir., KCGSC

Others attending: See attached list

Chairman Hardenburger asked for approval of minutes of January 28 and 29.

Senator Huelskamp moved that the minutes be approved, seconded by Senator Becker. Motion carried.

Chairman Hardenburger opened the Committee meeting with hearing on **SB 451**. Chairman introduced Carol Williams, Executive Director of KCGSC, who advised that the bill was recommended by the Kansas Commission on Governmental Standards and Conduct in their 1997 Annual Report. The bill would allow the Commission to be able to notify any federal or local authorities, besides the Attorney General's office of violations of law outside the Commission's jurisdiction. (Attachment #1)

The Committee discussion centered around taking any state violation to the Attorney General but any federal violation would allow the Commission to go to the federal level.

Chairman Hardenburger closed hearings on **SB 451**. Senator Petty moved the bill be passed, seconded by Senator Vidricksen.

The Committee before voting on the bill, continued discussion regarding documents to be turned over to the federal level.

Motion carried. Senator Becker voted NO.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Next meeting will be at 1:30 p.m. February 4, 1998.



KANSAS COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENTAL STANDARDS AND CONDUCT

Testimony before Senate Elections and Local Government in Support of Senate Bill 451 by Carol Williams

Senate Bill 451 amends K.S.A. 25-4161 and K.S.A. 46-256 which are provisions in the Campaign Finance Act and the Governmental Ethics Laws. This bill is a recommendation made by the Kansas Commission on Governmental Standards and Conduct in its 1997 Annual Report.

Under current law, the Commission is authorized to notify the Attorney General of any apparent violations of criminal law or other laws not administered by the Commission, which might be discovered during a Commission investigation.

This bill would allow the Commission to be able to notify any federal or local authorities, besides the Attorney General's office, of violations of laws outside the Commission's jurisdiction which are discovered during a Commission investigation.

For a possible violation of federal election law which may be discovered during a Commission investigation, the Commission would like to be able to go directly to the Federal Election Commission with its discovery, rather than having to turn it over to the Attorney General's Office for that office to refer the discovery over to the Federal Election Commission. Eliminating the Attorney General's Office as an intermediary would speed the process of getting necessary information to the agency, either federal or local, that would ultimately be responsible for the violation.

The Commission urges the Committee's support of SB 451.

Elec. & Local Gov.

Date: 7-3-98

Attachment: #1