

House Select Committee on Tobacco Settlement Funds

March 29, 1999
Room 521-N. Statehouse

Members Present

Representative David Adkins, Chairperson
Representative Marti Crow
Representative Henry Helgerson
Representative Ed McKechnie
Representative Melvin Neufeld
Representative Rocky Nichols
Representative Shari Weber

Staff Present

Alan Conroy, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Carolyn Rampey, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Jim Wilson, Office of the Revisor of Statutes

H.B. 2568

The Committee voted to recommend favorable for passage H.B. 2568, which is the model tobacco legislation requiring non-participating tobacco manufacturers to put money into escrow to be used to settle potential claims by states and other jurisdictions.

H.B. 2558

The Committee had extensive discussion about amendments to H.B. 2558 and generally worked from a list of concepts developed by Chairman Adkins. Upon a motion by Representative Crow, seconded by Representative Neufeld, the Committee adopted the conceptual amendments, with modifications, and also adopted the balloon amendments reviewed at an earlier meeting identified as "Draft of Proposed Amendments to H.B. 2558, March 22, 1999, For Consideration By House Select Committee on Tobacco Settlement Proceeds."

Upon a motion by Representative McKechnie, seconded by Representative Neufeld, the Committee voted to recommend that the bill be passed, as amended.

Representative Adkins discussed with the Committee the possibility of a fall-back position in case H.B. 2558, as amended, does not pass. That position would be to amend existing law pertaining to tobacco payments to more clearly define the purposes for which the 50 percent of the funds credited to the Children's Health Care Programs Fund could be used.