

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS.

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Melvin Neufeld at 12:30 p.m. on April 5, 2001, in Room 514-S of the Capitol. Chairman Wilk appeared later to conduct the meeting.

All members were present except: Representative Phil Kline

Committee staff present: Alan Conroy, Legislative Research
Rae Anne Davis, Legislative Research
Amy Kramer, Legislative Research
Audrey Nogle, Legislative Research
Jim Wilson, Revisor of Statutes
Mike Corrigan, Revisor of Statutes
Nikki Feuerborn, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Dr. Ramon Powers, Kansas Historical Society
Marion Cott, Kansas Humanities Council
Dr. Lorne Phillips, Center of Health & Environment
Statistics
Jack Brier, KDHA
Representative Jim Garner
Brandon Naylor, Topeka High
Geoff Tolbert, Topeka High
Jason Stafford, Topeka West
David Harbert, Topeka West

Others attending: See attached

Representative Minor moved for the adoption of the minutes of March 15, 16, and 20 as presented. Motion was seconded by Representative Hermes. Motion carried.

Hearing, discussion, and action on HB 2583—Kansas territorial sesquicentennial commemoration

Audrey Nogle, Legislative Research Department, explained the bill which would create a commission to plan the recognition of Kansas becoming a territory 150 years ago. Funding would be through donations.

Dr. Ramon Powers, State Historical Society, appeared before the Committee in support of the establishment of the Commission which would recognize the importance the Kansas Territory had in relationship to the Civil War and the settlement of the western United States. He urged the Committee to authorize the Commission this year.

Marion Cott, Kansas Humanities Council, spoke in support of the Sesquicentennial Commission which will plan and support such events as the Kansas Chatauqua in 2004.

There were no opponents and Vice-Chairman Neufeld declared the hearing on **HB 2583** closed.

Representative Pottorff moved that the language requiring members appointed by the House and Senate leadership to be from the public be deleted which would allow the appointment of legislators to serve on the advisory committee to the Commission. Motion was seconded by the Representative Stone. Motion carried.

Representative Spangler moved that **HB 2583** as amended be reported favorably. Motion was seconded by Representative Hermes. Motion carried.

Hearing, discussion, and action on SB 343—Vital statistics maintenance fee fund

Rae Anne Davis, Legislative Research Department, explained the bill which would create a fund by increasing the cost of copies of vital statistics information to upgrade data processing equipment and software.

Dr. Lorne Phillips, State Registrar and Director of the Center for Health and Environmental Statistics,

presented testimony in support of the bill (Attachment 1). Their agency generates income in the amount of \$2.6 million annually with the agency receiving funding in the amount of \$1.3 million. The total cost of the proposed integrated information system would be \$3.6 million with \$200,000 coming from the SGF and the remaining \$3.2 million through bonding if approved by the KDFEA.

Jack Brier, Kansas Development Finance Authority, presented an amendment for the bill authorizing a series of revenue bonds for the purchase of the integrated information system for KDHE (Attachment 2).

There were no opponents to the bill and Vice-Chairman Neufeld closed the hearing on **SB 343**.

Representative Spangler moved to amend the bill authorizing one or more series of revenue bonds by the Kansas Development Finance authority (see Attachment 2). Motion was seconded by Representative Peterson. Motion carried.

Representative Ballard moved to pass SB 343 as amended. Motion was seconded by Representative Bethell. Motion carried.

Hearing and Discussion on HB 2401–Kansas commemorative coin design act

Audrey Nogle, Legislative Research Department, explained the bill which would provide a means whereby the state through the cooperation of the Governor, the arts community and high school students selects the design of the quarter that is emblematic of Kansas, its history, geography and heritage for submission to the US Secretary of the Treasury in accordance with the Coin Program Act.

A fiscal note for the bill was distributed (Attachment 3).

Written testimony was received from Joseph Mark Ross of Manhattan in support of the act (Attachment 4).

Minority Leader Jim Garner presented testimony in favor of the bill which he indicated was a way to involve youth with government (Attachment 5).

Brandon Naylor, Topeka High, said he was speaking in favor of the bill because he felt civic virtue and duty should play an important role in every American's life (Attachment 6).

Geoff Tolbert, Topeka High, explained that he felt the involvement of youth in designing and working on the coin project would encourage civic responsibility which is necessary in democracies (Attachment 7).

Jason Stafford, Topeka West, said he thought this project would increase interest in politics among those students interested in participating in the program (Attachment 8).

David Harbert, Topeka West, praised the idea of the state turning what could be a process done by a committee or commission into a statewide education program (Attachment 9).

There were no opponents to the bill and Vice-Chairman Neufeld declared the hearing on **HB 2401** closed.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.



KANSAS
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT
BILL GRAVES, GOVERNOR
Clyde D. Graeber, Secretary

Testimony on Senate Bill No. 343
to
House Committee on Appropriations
Presented by Dr. Lorne A. Phillips
State Registrar and Director
Center for Health and Environmental Statistics
April 05, 2001

Senate Bill No. 343, through establishment of the Vital Statistics Maintenance Fee Fund, is a progressive approach toward partial resolution of a long standing problem faced by the Department of Health and Environment and its Office of Vital Statistics (OVS). To analyze and describe this many faceted problem and document its impact, the services of a consulting firm were secured. In the "Situational Analysis" section of Vital Statistics Integrated Information System Needs Analysis Final Report, the consultants stated:

"The current systems utilized by CHES to support core vital statistics functions are obsolete. Vendor technical support is being discontinued or becoming prohibitively expensive, and the central vital statistics application and database cannot be reliably modified to respond to internal and external business processes and reporting changes. These systems require immediate attention to ensure the reliable production of CHES work. CHES's reliance on information and the underlying system has created issues related to adapting business processes, quickly responding to new opportunities, and remaining in compliance with external regulations."

Registration, certification and issuance of vital records is a statutory responsibility of KDHE. To date, we have captured and stored nearly 10 million birth, death, fetal death, marriage and divorce records, including more than 3,800,000 which are stored on our FileNet imaging optical disk system. If system goes down, we will be unable to generate and issue certified copies of the vital records (averaging 350,000 copies annually). For example, if we cannot issue birth certificates, numerous Kansas residents will be unable to: prove citizenship; enroll children in school; claim Social Security benefits; obtain a driver's license, passport or visa; or, even play little league baseball. If we cannot issue death certificates, funeral directors cannot dispose of bodies, bank accounts cannot be reopened and insurance and Social Security benefits will not be paid. Also, we will not be able to continue to annually generate revenue (\$2,030,565 for the State General Fund, \$398,935 for the Family and

Center for Health and Environmental Statistics
900 SW Jackson, Room 151
Topeka, KS 66612-2221

PHONE (785) 296-1415
FAX (785) 296-2222

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ATTACHMENT #1

Children Investment Fund and \$261,061 for the District Coroners Fund during FY 2000).

FileNet corporation upgraded and changed to a new software system nearly five years ago and has been phasing out support for the old workflow software, which will no longer be supported as of December 31, 2001. Without vendor support, if the system went down, certified copies of certificates could not be issued electronically.

Revision of national standard certificates of birth, death and fetal death records must be completed by December 31, 2002. These revisions will require major changes to the vital statistics database.

Current database operations, which use aged and unsupported Genexus code generator technology cannot be modified to implement revisions of standardized certificates. In addition to affecting database operations, these revisions will also require major changes to the current Electronic Birth Certificate (EBC) system. The existing EBC system uses old, DOS-based workstation technology (no longer offered by any vendors) which cannot be modified to collect the new information which will be included in the revised standard birth certificate. Consequently, Kansas would not be able to fulfill contractual obligations with the National Center for Health Statistics for submission of Kansas data to the national database and to exchange vital record information with other states. The Federal contracts generate about \$215,000 annually.

Another component of the Vital System which must be upgraded is the Point of Sale (POS) system, which provides customer receipt information for the audit trail and coordinates processes for issuance of all certified copies of certificates. This system will not be upgraded or supported by the vendor as of December 31, 2002. A replacement system must be developed and implemented by that time.

The revised death certificate standards call for reducing the amount of time for the Social Security Administration (SSA) to receive fact-of-death information from the OVS. Currently, recording and managing death information involves manual processes. To meet future contractual requirements of the SSA, the OVS will be required to implement an electronic-based system for fact-of-death reporting. As outlined above, our current database operations cannot be modified to accommodate electronic fact-of-death reporting.

Authorization and establishment of the Vital Statistics Maintenance Fee Fund is a sound approach for helping to meet the continuing challenge of technological change. However, it should be noted that the proposed \$1.00 increase will only generate about \$350,000. The estimated cost of the entire project, which has already begun and will be completed in 2003, is \$3.6 million (\$3.2 million from the KDFFA loan and \$400,000 currently in our budget). The increased fees, combined with \$200,000 from the State General Fund already included in the agency's budget, would be used to make payments on the certificate. Maintenance costs will probably not change before the project is completed. However, at that point we will need to adjust our allocation to deal with maintenance costs which, according to the needs assessment, could be as high as \$300,000 above current expenditures depending upon vendor and database selections.. Once the KDFFA loan is paid off, the Fee Fund will provide a stable funding stream to keep pace with technological change. Establishment of the Vital Statistics Maintenance Fee Fund provides a foundation for ensuring that the OVS, for which there is no alternate source of such service, is responsive to meeting current and future vital records needs of Kansans.

I thank you for the opportunity to appear before the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and will gladly stand for questions members of the Committee may have on this topic.

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PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL NO. 343

New Sec. 3. Capital improvement projects for financing facilities, equipment, technology and other capital improvements for the implementation and maintenance of the vital statistics integrated information system in the department of health and environment are hereby approved for the department of health and environment for the purposes of subsection (b) of K.S.A. 74-8905, and amendments thereto and the authorization of one or more series of revenue bonds by the Kansas development finance authority in accordance with that statute.

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ATTACHMENT #2



DIVISION OF THE BUDGET
 State Capitol Building, Room 152-E
 Topeka, Kansas 66612-1575
 (785) 296-2436
 FAX (785) 296-0231
<http://da.state.ks.us/budget>

Bill Graves
 Governor

Duane A. Goossen
 Director

March 13, 2001

The Honorable Kenny Wilk, Chairperson
 House Committee on Appropriations
 Statehouse, Room 514-S
 Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Wilk:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2401 by Representative Garner, et al.

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2401 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2401 would create the Kansas Commemorative Coin Design Act. The bill would create a 16-member Commission, which would include representatives of the Kansas Historical Society, the Kansas Arts Commission, the Kansas Humanities Council, and the general public. The Commission would select a design for the Kansas commemorative quarter-dollar coin. Kansas artists would be invited to submit design sketches that are appealing to the citizens of Kansas and that would be befitting of the state's history and diversity. The Commission would work with the State Board of Education and the Secretary of State and would submit four designs to be voted on by students enrolled in accredited high schools. The students, by a majority vote, would select the design to be submitted to the Governor. The Governor would submit the selected design to the U. S. Mint for review.

Estimated State Fiscal Effect				
	FY 2001 SGF	FY 2001 All Funds	FY 2002 SGF	FY 2002 All Funds
Revenue	--	--	--	--
Expenditure	--	--	\$10,300	\$10,300
FTE Pos.	--	--		

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The Honorable Kenny Wilk, Chairperson

March 13, 2001

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The Kansas State Department of Education states that this bill would not require any additional appropriations to implement. The Kansas Historical Society indicates that the bill would require approximately \$1,000 for promotional expenses. The Kansas Arts Commission states that the only costs that it would incur would be travel costs for its Commission representative, which could be absorbed within its current budget. The Secretary of State indicates that it would design, print, distribute and collect the ballots that would be used by the high school students for voting on the design. For this effort, the agency would require expenditures of \$9,300, including \$4,800 for the printing of 150,000 ballots at \$.032 each, \$3,500 for postage, and \$1,000 for sorting and tabulating the ballots. Although not indicated in the responses, all expenditures are assumed to be from the State General Fund. Any fiscal effect resulting from enactment of this bill is not included in *The FY 2002 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,



Duane A. Goossen
Director of the Budget

cc: David Haury, Historical Society
Sharon Schwartz, Legislative Administrative Services
Chris Howell, Arts Commission
Christy Stutz, Secretary of State
Dale Dennis, Department of Education

April 5, 2001

To the House Appropriations Committee:

I am writing to express my support for **House Bill 2401**.

Being a native Kansan, a coin collector for almost fifty years, and the official spokesperson for the Kansas Numismatic Association I encourage you to take positive action on **House Bill 2401**. The legislature needs to allow a timely start to the lengthy selection process of the best possible quarter design for the state of Kansas. Since that coin will represent Kansas to rest of the United States, as well as to the rest of the world, it is important that the commission have adequate time for a careful and thorough decision. The time required to solicit designs from the talented artists across the state, as well as the time required for the commission to reach consensus, demands an immediate passage of **House Bill 2401**.

As proud Kansans, I am sure you want to be proud of the Kansas quarter. In order to have the type of quality selection this process demands, we need to start immediately. The cost of this bill should be minimal. It will be easy to implement. Many of the members of the commission that Bill 2401 identifies, already exist in the Kansas system and are anxious to get the process underway. Many expert numismatics across the state would be more than glad to volunteer their time and expenses to be part of this important opportunity to shape the Kansas quarter. I am available to represent the Kansas Numismatic Association on the commission and I am prepared and ready to begin tomorrow. Please help the State of Kansas do the thorough job this process demands and **act favorably on House Bill 2401**.

Sincerely,

Joseph **MARK** Ross
5755 Pheasant Ridge Road
Manhattan, KS 66502

785-539-3815

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ATTACHMENT # 4

State of Kansas

House of Representatives

JIM D. GARNER
House Democratic Leader



Topeka Address
State Capitol
Room 327-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1504
(785) 296-7630

Office of the Democratic Leader

Testimony in Support of
HB 2401
House Appropriations Committee
5 April 2001

Chairman Wilk and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to appear and testify in support of HB 2401. This bill would establish a process for the design of the Kansas Commemorative Quarter as part of the U.S. Mint's 50 state quarters program.

The 50 state quarters program is a 10 year initiative to commemorate the history of our nation. Beginning in 1999, the program mints 5 new quarters per year, honoring the states in the order in which they joined the Union. The Kansas quarter is scheduled for release in 2005.

The state quarters have already become a popular item among coin collectors of all ages. The designs should reflect the unique history and culture of the states they honor. In learning about the quarters, our children also learn much about the state. House Bill 2401 sets in motion a process by which the people of Kansas become involved in the Kansas Quarter's design.

The bill creates the Kansas Commemorative Coin Design Commission. The proposal would establish the Kansas Commemorative Coin Design Commission, which would solicit designs from artists in the state and select four finalists. The final choice among the four designs would be left to an election of high school students during the final week of January 2003 in conjunction with Kansas Day activities. The election would be run under rules established by the Secretary of State's Office and the State Board of Education.

We are fortunate to have many talented artists in our state. This proposal would draw on their talent to depict our Kansas heritage. We should call on these Kansans to be participants in the process.

It is also important to include our high school students in the decision. It is a great way to get

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kids involved with government. Their decision would actually have significant meaning. By allowing Kansas students to make the final decision, we would be giving them the ability to have a tangible impact upon public policy. This is a logical way to reinforce the message to our young citizens that voting is important and a civic responsibility.

Mr. Chairman, I believe HB 2401 offers a thoughtful approach for choosing the Kansas quarter.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to share my support for HB 2401.

Testimony by Brandon Naylor Regarding Student Participation in the Official State Quarter

Benjamin Franklin once said "Civic virtue entails everything the United States stands for and is the greatest privilege bestowed upon its citizens." True to the words of Mr. Franklin, I believe civic virtue and duty should play an important role in every American's life. This duty, however, is virtually limited to people of ages over 18. This includes the privilege of voting and the ability to run for public office. Those who are younger than 18, however, are somewhat limited in the extent of which they can get involved. In an informal poll amongst my friends, the only ways they can get involved in their community is to give blood, which is not a possibility before the age of seventeen, or volunteering, which takes up a tremendous amount of time from a high schooler's schedule. Even voting, which IS allowed at the age of 18, can not be considered a social responsibility until the end of high school as most seniors are still 17.

I feel the ability should be available for Kansas high school students to help design the state quarter is an important one for no other reason than it opens the door for even more participation on the part of said students. Personally, I feel student participation is terribly important because it proves they (the students) deserve the rights and liberties provided by our government. It may sound cliched or tawdry when I say civic duty is important, but when a member of an organized society can guarantee their freedom and secure their place in the community.

Adding to the importance of student involvement is the high school culture itself. When students get too "wrapped-up" in the high school atmosphere, they have a tendency to single it out as the only world they live in. Allowing them the opportunity to help in the design of the official State quarter would almost insure that those with artistic ability who are not currently involved would become a part of the community in, at least this small way.

Another large advantage of allowing students to help in the design of the quarter is giving the chance for unknown student artists to be exposed. Some students who may not have had the

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Testimony by Brandon Naylor Regarding Student Participation in the Official State Quarter

break to be seen by any number of art scouts.

With these being even the least of the advantages to allowing student participation, the ultimate privilege would be the involvement and civic pride given by developing the State quarter and having an opportunity to feel as though they participated in something great.

Plato once said that, " That States are as its men are. They grow out of human characters. What this ancient philosopher said directly applies not only the efficacy of the government and the children who will shall hold the reins some day, but also that the State is only what the ability of its people are. It is through this civic action that not only is the government helped but also how the government can help the character of future generations. This bill presented to us today does two things for the betterment of society. First, it increases the interaction of a dwindling political group so that civilians can learn and respect the government that represents them. Furthermore, it increases the interstate prestige of this locality through reaction of person and State.

Initially, civic responsibility can only be aided by this legislation. Assume it is sad but true that many citizens of localities and even the federal government simply do not vote. This is probably true because knowledge was encouraged enough to them. But the problem with this is that everything in a true such as ours stems from the will of the people. However, without this growth democracies can't represent all that it should. But, this assumption is not a universal maxim and can be changed within every generation. Through student to government consensus, students will learn that the government does many interesting things that are affected by us, which in turn could expand into future and help to increase their adult transition to civic rights. In fact most students who turn eighteen do not think of voting as the privilege it is, but rather as an obligation not worth filling. Now empirically, at my school during the recent elections for president, I was surprised to find out that we hold a mock election where a presidential candidate is considered the winner at Topeka High School. The interesting part is that many students became adamant and well informed of what was going on during this period. Thus

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showing the effectiveness of student encouragement. This bill does the same thing, but with one exception, every high schooler will be able to unilaterally participate.

In addition to this, the image of Kansas and its youth can be heightened through this exercise. Put yourself in the mind and body of someone who does not live in the Midwest, and think of the word, Kansas. What comes out? Is it the stereotypical vision of a dustbowl? Or do you vision the Land of Oz? Unfortunately, I have even seen many programs on TV displaying this false persona. It is with this bill that the national ideal of Kansas could be thought of as it is. A state that played a huge role prior to the Civil War, or a region whose national guard was the first military unit in Cuba during the Spanish American War. Generally what should come to mind is a place with deep heritage and history, one that is integral to the Union. The enactment of this document would show a clever representation of Kansas, and how Kansas values its youth.

In the end Plato was right, that children and leadership go both ways, hand in hand. If you believe that States are only what its men are, then you know what you should do. If you trust that governments actions can help its future through youth, then you still know what you should do.

Mr. Chairman (or Mrs. Chairwoman), thank you for the opportunity to be here. My name is Jason Stafford and I am from Topeka West in support of HOUSE BILL #2401

For one reason or another, most students have little or no interest in politics. There are probably a couple of reasons for that: one of which may be that until you are well into your senior year, it's not likely that you are old enough to vote. Another reason may be that as a young person it is difficult to make your political views accepted by the older, wiser generation.

But students of today are the voting population, the juries, and in all likelihood the political leaders of tomorrow. In order to fill these positions effectively, it seems important to me to prepare for this future by involving students in politics early. Let them build experience.

This bill offers a great opportunity for a handful of students to gain some experience and hopefully through this, develop some interest in both politics and our great state.

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ATTACHMENT #8

Hello. My name is David Harbert. I am a senior at Topeka West High School and am speaking to you today on behalf of my government class.

I am proud to live in a state that takes young people's opinions seriously. For example, some years ago, students successfully advocated naming the ornate box turtle the state reptile. You are now considering another bill in which young people could play a role in our government. It is unique that the State can turn what could be a process done by a committee or commission into a statewide education program, which will produce the needed design and offer an opportunity for young people to learn about government.

I believe that House Bill No. 2401, giving students input into the choice of the Kansas commemorative coin design, is an effective plan. Students would be able to participate in a process that would normally not be available to them because of their ages. I think that it would help interest students the way government works and the election process. I believe that we, the students of high schools around the state, would become more involved after being able to help decide a part of our state's history first hand. This would activate our interest and involvement in government, making us better citizens. This in turn makes a better government.

When talking to many high school students about local government and elections, they often say that they don't know the candidates or what the issues are. This bill would help more students learn about the political process and how issues are settled. It would not only represent the adults in this state, but the students as well. These same students grow up to live and work in the state of Kansas.

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