

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Carol E. Beggs at 3:37 p.m. on February 12, 2001 in Room 522-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative Ethel Peterson - excused

Committee staff present: Renae Jefferies - Advisor
Hank Avila - Research
Russell Mills - Research
Carol Doel - Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Ken Corbet - Ravenwood Lodge
Chad Luce - Kansas Department of Wild Life & Parks

Others attending: See attached list

Chairman Beggs called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. on February 12, 2001. The minutes of February 5th and February 7th were distributed for approval. The minutes of February 7th were approved as read and the minutes of February 5th were approved with the amendment that Representative McClure made the following motion seconded by Representative Aday: *To change the language of **HB 2098** page 6, line 38 to read: "Commercial basis" means that the recipient of the services agrees to provide valuable consideration as compensation for the guide services and the services are provided as part of a business relationship. Representative Campbell made the motion that the minutes be approved as amended.* Representative Osborne seconded the motion.

HCR 5011 Memorializing congress to provide health care for retired military personnel

This was on the agenda to be heard, however, the conferees were unable to be present until February 19, 2001.

HB 2347 Hunting license not required to hunt on controlled shooting area.

Mr. Ken Corbet of Ravenwood Lodge addressed the committee as a proponent of the bill. He is asking to have the hunting license eliminated for controlled shooting areas. These facilities are already licensed through Wild Life and Parks. To his knowledge they are the only business licensed to do business in Kansas where the clients have to buy a license to do business with them. (Attachment 1)

Chad Luce of the Department of Wild Life and Parks came before the committee as an opponent of the bill. One of the reasons for opposing this bill is that the user fees comprise nearly 100% funding for fish and wildlife programs. Removing this controlled shooting area requirement would reduce department revenue by \$81,594. Another opposition is that the controlled shooting areas already enjoy many benefits such as hunting from September 1 through March 31, may harvest hen pheasants, are not required to complete a certified hunter education course, and may purchase a special license at a reduced fee regardless of residency. (Attachment 2)

Discussion was held on the bill following the testimonies with questions being answered by Mr. Corbet and Mr. Luce.

No action was taken on the bill.

ANNOUNCEMENT: The next meeting will be on Wednesday, February 14, 2001 with a hearing on **HB 2414 Kansas tourism advertising fund** and **HB 2098 Commercial guide services; permits requirements; reports of dispositions of prosecutions re-referred on General Orders**

Chairman Beggs adjourned the meeting at 4:15 p.m.

HOUSE TOURISM COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

DATE February 12, 2001

NAME	REPRESENTING
Chad Luce	KDWP
GEORGE PETERSEN	Ks TAXPAYERS Network
Ken Corbett	Ravenwood Lodge
Roger Franzke	RGE

RAVENWOOD LODGE

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So here are some facts that'll help put things into perspective:

The movie *Titanic* grossed **\$376 million** in nine weeks. The hunting and shooting sports industry generates that much in four days.

The entire motion-picture industry grosses **\$5 billion** annually. Hunting, shooting, and related activities gross that much in two months.

Hunting and shooting generate more **annual sales** than Coca-Cola, Anheuser Busch, McDonald's, or RJR Nabisco.

The fishing industry supports **1.2 million jobs**—more than 1 percent of the entire U.S. civilian labor force.

Fishing contributes **\$3 billion** in federal income taxes, which equals nearly one-third of the entire federal budget for agriculture.—CELESTE MARSHALL

(SOURCES: SPORTING ARMS AND AMMUNITION MANUFACTURER'S INSTITUTE, INC.; "THE ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE OF HUNTING"; "THE ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE OF FISHING")

House Tourism Committee
February 12, 2001
Attachment 1

RAVENWOOD LODGE

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Tourism Comm

Rm 522 So.

330pm Feb 11, 2001

My name is Ken Corbet and own and operate
Ravenwood Lodge.

I am asking you eliminate a hunting license on
controlled shooting areas. We would like to be treated
like any other Tourism attraction in Kansas. We are
the only business that is licensed by the Kansas
Wildlife and Parks where our clients are required
to buy a license before they can do business
with us. We own the land, inventory (i.e. Quail & Phantoms)
just like McDonalds. How many hamburgers would
McDonalds sell if their customers had to buy a license
before they could buy a Big Mac.

Ken Corbet 1-20



STATE OF KANSAS
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE & PARKS

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HOUSE BILL 2347

**Testimony Provided to
House Committee on Tourism
February 12, 2001**

House Bill 2347 would exempt persons hunting on a controlled shooting area from purchasing a controlled shooting area license. The bill also would strike language describing the price for seniors purchasing a hunting or fishing license as one-half the general resident price, despite other language that explicitly states seniors are not required to purchase a hunting or fishing license at all. This language was produced by a revisor error, and the department has proposed removing this language in Senate Bill 148, which is currently before the Senate.

The department opposes House Bill 2347 on several grounds. User fees comprise nearly all of the department's funding for fish and wildlife programs. Removing this controlled shooting area license requirement, based on 1999 license sales, would reduce department revenue by \$81,594, not including the resulting loss of federal aid dollars, which are allocated on the basis of land area and the number of licenses sold in each state.

Persons hunting on controlled shooting may also harvest wild birds. Due to the excellent upland bird habitat found at most controlled shooting areas, wild birds are also harvested on the property. No other hunters in Kansas, with the exception of private landowners hunting on land they own or lease, are allowed an exemption to harvest wild game without a license.

Controlled shooting areas are periodically inspected and patrolled by department law enforcement personnel. The department also processes records submitted by area operators to ensure compliance. Controlled shooting area operator licenses and hunting licenses help fund these activities.

Controlled shooting areas already enjoy many unique benefits. Persons may hunt on controlled shooting areas from September 1 through March 31, more than 120 more days than persons hunting upland birds on private or public land, and may harvest hen pheasants, a practice prohibited for all other hunters. Persons hunting on controlled shooting areas are not required to have completed a certified hunter education course, and may purchase a special license at a reduced fee (\$13.50), regardless of residency.

Finally, the department does not view the \$13.50 license as a legitimate deterrent to business. It is the department's opinion that the cost of this license is minimal, relative to the costs that the controlled shooting area operator charges for their services.