

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE WILDLIFE, PARKS AND TOURISM COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Don Myers at 3:30 P.M. on March 14, 2005 in Room 241-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Margaret Long- excused  
Representative Lynne Oharah- excused  
Representative L. Candy Ruff- excused  
Representative Clark Shultz- excused

Committee staff present:

Hank Avila, Kansas Legislative Research  
Lisa Montgomery, Revisor of Statutes Office  
Betty Caruthers, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Christopher Tymeson, Chief Legal Counsel, Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairman Myers requested a motion on the Committee Minutes. Moved by Representative Beamer, seconded by Representative Treaster for approval of Minutes of the House Committee on Wildlife, Parks and Tourism held on March 9, 2005.

Motion carried.

Chairman Myers opened debate for working of **SB 59 - Creates the wildlife violators compact.**

Representative Flaharty moved that SB 59 be passed favorably, seconded by Representative Beamer.

Chairman Myers recognized Chris Tymeson who gave a briefing of the bill. At the present time there are 19 states which are members of the Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact. Passage of this legislation will:

1. Prohibit people convicted of serious wildlife violations in other compact member states from acquiring licenses or permits in Kansas.
2. Provide a means for law enforcement officers to carry out their duties without unduly detaining people who have committed less serious violations.

Motion carried.

Chairman Myers opened hearing on **SB 194 - Commission permits for big game only available to non-profit organizations that actively promote wildlife conservation.**

Chairman Myers recognized Revisor, Lisa Montgomery to give a summary of the bill. Senate Committee voted to change name from commissioner permits to commission permits. Permits will be made available to non-profit organizations that actively promote wildlife conservation and the hunting and fishing heritage.

Chairman Myers recognized Chris Tymeson to testify as a proponent on **SB 194. (Attachment 1)** Provisions in this bill would take effect July 1, 2005 if passed. There would be only 7 permits issued yearly, 1 for elk or antelope and the remainder for deer. Organizations would submit an application and go through a random drawing. If drawn, that organization would no longer be eligible for a three year period.

Representative Morrison moved to table the bill, seconded by Representative Weber.

Motion failed.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Wildlife, Parks and Tourism Committee at 3:30 P.M. on March 14, 2005 in Room 241-N of the Capitol.

Representative Grange moved to pass favorably **SB 194**, seconded by Representative Swenson.

Motion carried.

Chairman Myers stated that Representative Holmes will carry **SB 59** and Representative Grange will carry **SB 194**.

Chairman Myers adjourned the Committee at 4:15.



# KANSAS

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE & PARKS

KATHLEEN SEBELIUS, GOVERNOR

**Testimony on SB 194 relating to Commission Permits  
To  
House Committee on Wildlife, Parks and Tourism  
By Christopher J. Tymeson  
Chief Legal Counsel  
Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks  
14 March 2005**

Senate Bill 194 prescribes for the issuance of Commission Permits by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks. The provisions contained in this bill would be effective on July 1, 2005. The Department supports the passage of this bill.

SB 194 was introduced at the behest of constituent groups and is modeled after systems that many western states have utilized for years. The provisions of the bill allow for the issuance of commission permits to nonprofit organizations that actively promote wildlife conservation and the hunting and fishing heritage. Annually, only 7 permits could be issued, 1 of which could be for elk or antelope, with the remainder allotted for deer. The organizations receiving a permit would be required to market the permit in a way that maximizes the financial benefit to the organization and the Department. To be awarded a permit, organizations would be required to submit an application to the KDWP Commission and be chosen in a random drawing. No organization would be eligible for a three year period if drawn for a permit and the organization drawn would be required to pay to the Department the highest face value for the permit issued, such as the nonresident price for a deer permit. No other compensation shall be provided to the Department or the Commission for the issuance of a permit. After sale of the permit, the organization would have to spend 85% of the profit on projects that are sponsored and approved by the Department, except in the case of FHFH and they could retain 85% of the proceeds.

The Department has many non-profit, non-governmental organizations that support conservation and Department projects. This bill would allow those conservation partners to receive some funding to assist in Department projects as well as assist in keeping the doors open for business. Many of those partners struggle from year to year to attain limited administrative funds, as well operationally funds for conservation projects. The provisions in this bill would be a way to support those partners for all of their service.

The bill has been amended to address concerns of the Senate and the Department would urge favorable consideration by this Committee.

Office of the Secretary  
1020 S Kansas Ave., Ste. 200, Topeka, KS 66612-  
Phone 785-296-2281 Fax 785-296-6953 www.kdwp.ks.gov

Committee on Wildlife, Parks and  
Tourism  
3/14/05  
Attachment 1