

Approved: _____
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Faber at 3:30 P.M. on February 5, 2007, in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Raney Gilliland, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Jason Thompson, Revisor of Statutes
Florence Deeter, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Danny McReynolds, Board Member, Cloud County Fair
Chris Tymeson, Chief Legal Counsel, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks

Others attending:

See attached list.

The Chairman opened the hearing on **HB 2208 - Cloud County Fair Board.**

Danny McReynolds, a board member for the Cloud County Fair, spoke as a proponent of the bill saying that because of changes in districts, the original statute (**K.S.A. 19-2699**) has become obsolete; he noted that the bill recommends board members be appointed by the county commissioners. (**Attachment 1**). He also suggested that the term limit for board members be deleted, since obtaining board members had become increasingly difficult.

The Chairman closed the hearing on **HB 2208** and opened the hearing on **HB 2234 - creating the Kansas Hunting Heritage Protection Act.** Chris Tymeson, Chief Attorney for the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP), spoke in favor of the bill as “no net loss” legislation which would require that department management decisions do not result in a net loss of hunting opportunities on department-managed lands. He recommended amendments in the language so that leased lands and deed restrictions do not impede the intent of the bill. He further commented that the bill addresses only one aspect of KDWP—that of wildlife management. Since KDWP also provides park recreation, the bill should exempt park lands from the provisions of the act. (**Attachment 2**)

Mr. Tymeson responded to members’ questions regarding the bill.

There were no opponents to the bill.

The Chairman closed the hearing on **HB 2234.**

The Chairman opened further discussion on **HB 2208.** **A motion was made and seconded to recommend HB 2208 as favorable for passage** (Motion, Representative Bowers; second, Representative Gatewood). After brief discussion, **the motion passed.** **A further motion was seconded and passed to place the bill on the House Consent Calendar** (Motion, Representative Bowers; second, Representative Gatewood).

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 6.

HOUSE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

DATE: February 5, 2007

NAME	REPRESENTING
Dana Peterson	Ks Assoc of Wheat Growers
Dan McKeown	Cloud County Fair Board
Chris Tymeson	KDWP
Sky Adams	KDWP
CV Cotsoyadis	KDA
Randy Smith	KBA

Good Afternoon, my name is Danny McReynolds and I am a member of the Cloud County Fair Board. I am here to support HB 2208. This is a revision of 19-2699. Due to the districting of extension for Cloud County we no longer have a combined election, which it states in the original bill. We would like to bring this up to date and have the board members appointed by the county commissioners. We would also like to take out the term limit for board membership and make it unlimited, due to the difficult time in finding volunteers to be members of the board.

I would like to thank you for your time for considering and approving HB 2208 and I stand for questions at this time.

KANSAS

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE & PARKS

KATHLEEN SEBELIUS, GOVERNOR

**Testimony on HB 2234 regarding
Creating the Kansas Hunting Heritage Protection Act
To
The House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources**

**By Christopher J. Tymeson
Chief Legal Counsel
Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks**

5 February 2007

HB 2234 seeks to create the Kansas Hunting Heritage Protection Act. The provision of the bill would be effective on publication in the statute book. **The Department generally supports the provisions contained in HB 2234 but has some concerns with the language.**

The Kansas Hunting Heritage Protection Act would require that department management decisions and actions not result in any net loss of hunting opportunities on department managed lands. The bill would also require a report to the Legislature on or before January 1 annually detailing this information. This bill is commonly known as "No Net Loss" legislation.

Generally, the Department owns lands and leases lands. Lands are leased from both private individuals (WIHA) and public entities. Those leased lands change annually, have some restrictions in the leases and are subject to the appropriation process. Also, some of the owned lands contain deed restrictions that could impede that which the bill seeks. The language of the bill should be amended to remove the language regarding leased lands to reflect those concerns.

In addition, the Department is a state agency serving dual purposes, that of fish and wildlife management and that of park recreation. The bill does not reflect that second purpose and therefore there should be an exemption for park lands from the provisions of the act.

In conclusion, the Department appreciates the opportunity to comment on the bill and would appreciate the opportunity to work with the proponent of the bill to modify language to address the concerns raised.

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**HS AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL
RESOURCES COMMITTEE
2-5-2007
ATTACHMENT 2**