

Approved: April 2, 2007

Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Arlen Siegfried at 1:30 P.M. on March 27, 2007 in Room 313-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Carol Doel, Committee Assistant

Conferees:

None

Chairman Siegfried opened the floor for hearing on **HR 6018** - Requiring Attorney General to bring certain criminal charges; abortion.

There was no one who wished to speak to the **HR 6018**, and Chairman Siegfried recognized written testimony from Attorney General Paul Morrison which the Chair read to the Committee. In the written testimony, the Attorney General stated that his office is currently conducting a thorough and professional investigation of Dr. George Tiller. He further stated that the people of Kansas elected him to use his independent judgment and legal expertise in representing the State of Kansas in this and other matters. He gave his assurance that if he finds evidence that a crime has been committed, he will file new charges against Dr. Tiller. (Attachment 1)

The Chair closed the hearing on **HR 6018**.

With no further business before the committee, the Chairman adjourned the meeting.



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House Federal & State Affairs Committee

HR 6018

Attorney General Paul Morrison

March 27, 2007

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on House Resolution 6018. Due to the short notice, I regret that I am unable to attend in person.

As has been reported by the media, the Kansas Attorney General's Office is currently conducting a thorough and professional investigation of Dr. George Tiller. I have assigned an experienced assistant attorney general full time to this investigation. She is carefully examining the evidence and documents associated with this case. I am not permitted to discuss further details of this investigation.

I have spent over 26 years building successful criminal cases and personally trying some of Kansas' most difficult and complex cases. I will always enforce our state's laws to the fullest extent. Whether charges against Dr. Tiller are ultimately filed will be based on the facts and evidence of the case.

I sincerely appreciate your position regarding the 30 misdemeanor counts filed by the previous attorney general. Any further charges filed related to this investigation will be based on my professional judgment, not legislative action or political calculations.

The people of Kansas elected me to use my independent judgment and legal expertise in representing the State of Kansas in this and other matters. I can assure you that if I find evidence that a crime has been committed, I will file new charges against Dr. Tiller.

As I stated in a letter to Speaker Neufeld and Chairman Siegfried last week, an announcement regarding this case will be made in the near future.

FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS

Date 3-27-07

Attachment 1

75-702. Duties and responsibilities; authority to prosecute. The attorney general shall appear for the state, and prosecute and defend all actions and proceedings, civil or criminal, in the supreme court, in which the state shall be interested or a party, and shall also, when required by the governor or either branch of the legislature, appear for the state and prosecute or defend, in any other court or before any officer, in any cause or matter, civil or criminal, in which this state may be a party or interested or when the constitutionality of any law of this state is at issue and when so directed shall seek final resolution of such issue in the supreme court of the state of Kansas. The attorney general shall have authority to prosecute any matter related to a violation of K.S.A. 12-189 or 75-5133, and amendment thereto, related to unlawful acts when the offender is an officer or employee of a city or county.

History: L. 1879, ch. 166, § 71; R.S. 1923, 75-702; L. 1975, ch. 431, § 1; L. 2005, ch. 110, § 9; July 1.