

Approved: 3/30/07  
Date

MINUTES OF THE SENATE ELECTIONS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tim Huelskamp at 1:30 P.M. on January 9, 2007 in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members except Senator Donovan were present.

Committee staff present:

Martha Dorsey, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Matt Spurgin, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Ken Wilke, Revisor of Statutes  
Zoie Kern, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Brad Bryant, Election Director, Office of Secretary of State

Others attending:

See attached list.

Senator Huelskamp, welcomed back returning Senators and introduced new Committee Member, Senator Julia Lynn.

Brad Bryant, Elections Director, State of Kansas, gave presentation on the election process in Kansas. (Attachment 1).

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Zoie C. Kern, Committee Secretary



**RON THORNBURGH**  
Secretary of State



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**STATE OF KANSAS**  
Office of the Kansas Secretary of State

**Presentation to Senate Committee on Elections and Local Government**  
by  
**Brad Bryant, Election Director**

**January 9, 2007**

**Legal basis for elections**

Federal laws—

- Voting Rights Act  
Spanish ballots
- Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA)
- National Voter Registration Act of 1993
- Help America Vote Act of 2002

State laws—Chapter 25 of KSAs

**Organization of electoral process in Kansas**

One state election office—SOS is chief state election officer

105 county election officers—104 elected county clerks, 4 appointed election commissioners

County role—

Conduct official elections

Duties in each election include:

Print & distribute ballots

Designate polling places

Appoint, train, pay poll workers

Tabulate election results, provide information to county canvassers

Report to SOS

County clerks have many other duties

SOS role—

Provide state perspective

Interpret laws

Train county election officers

Prescribe ballot forms, other forms used in elections

Complaints, allegations of illegal activity

Work with election officers, local prosecutors, state & federal agencies

State role is greater in election administration under HAVA

Election and Local Government

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## Components of typical election

### Build calendar

Election day, voter registration deadline, advance voting, federal services (military) ballot distribution, publications, candidate filing deadline

### Key parts:

Candidate list

Ballot preparation

Voter registration

Canvass & certification

### New areas of emphasis under HAVA—

Consistency, uniformity

Training of poll workers

Ballot preparation includes programming machines, providing audio ballots

### Accessibility

Physical accessibility of polling places

Accessibility to ballot—adjustable, ADA-compliant machines

Language accessibility—6 Spanish counties