

Approved: 3/25/08
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 February 25, 2008 in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Martha Dorsey, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Ken Wilke, Revisor of Statutes
Jerry Donaldson, Legislative Assistant
Zoie Kern, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:
none

Others attending:
See attached list.

Senator Huelskamp asked if there was any interest in working **SB 520**.
None was indicated

Senator Huelskamp presented **SB 562** before committee for discussion..
No interest was indicated.

Senator Huelskamp presented **SB 428** before committee.

Senator Reitz said he had interest in **SB 428** by Senator Vratil.

Discussion on openness issue of bill.

Senator Barone commented that all issues should be open. This should be looked at carefully.

Senator Reitz stated that voting done in secret for officials should be an open procedure.

Senator Reitz stated the more transparency the better.

Senator Pyle says most issues are already addressed but he agrees with the openness.

Senator Lynn agrees if this opened up everything needs to be.

Senator Lynn is not comfortable with the present language.

Senator Reitz says it affects each campaign differently.

Senator Barone would there be any wisdom in making it very explicit in the law that these are partisans activities and the party are free to change there own rule. Is there anything in the statues to prohibit them from making there own rule.\ Senator Huelskamp looking at page 2 line 13 **SB 428** does indicate secret there. Senator Barone that would be the place to amend it such elections should be secret etc, unless the party hosting meeting would chose otherwise.

Senator Betts stated that a chair from each party should be brought in to discuss this. The Democrats and Republican operate within different rules. The law is here for a reason.

Closed hearing on **SB 428**.

Amendment being drafted on **SB 621**.

Senator Huelskamp stated **SB 609** is to be a blessed bill.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Zoie C. Kern, Committee Assistant