

SESSION OF 2002

**CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT  
HOUSE BILL NO. 2896**

As Agreed to May 16, 2002

**Brief\***

HB 2896 would provide for a loan of \$100,000 to the Kansas Sports Hall of Fame from the Kansas Export Loan Guarantee Fund within the Department of Commerce and Housing. The loan would be made on July 1, 2002, and repayment would be required by June 30, 2004. The bill would also encourage voluntary monetary participation by the Board of Regents and accredited independent institutions. Finally, the bill would require the Kansas Sports Hall of Fame to submit quarterly reports to the House Appropriations Committee and the Senate Ways and Means Committee when the Legislature is in session and the Legislative Budget Committee when the Legislature is not in session.

**Background**

Conferees who testified in support of the bill included Representative Weber; Ted Hays, Kansas Sports Hall of Fame; Otto Schnellbacher, inductee to the Hall of Fame; and John Pinegar, Washburn University. Representative Wilson also submitted written testimony in support of the bill. Most of the testimony was furnished by Representative Weber who provided the Committee with a cash flow history on the Kansas Hall of Fame and suggestions of representatives from Regents institutions as well as those from her colleagues who represent Regents institutions located in their legislative districts. Representative Weber said these individuals suggested that:

- High school institutions also impose the surcharge at a designated Hall of Fame game during the year or at championship games;

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\*Conference committee summary reports are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. No summary is prepared when the report is an agreement to disagree.

- Other activities, such as car racing and rodeos, have Hall of Fame events with a \$1.00 surcharge on a designated event; and
- The games required to be played be consistent with the number of current Hall of Fame games—one football and one men's varsity basketball. The current legislation adds one women's varsity event to these two games for a total of three games per year.

In terms of support for the organization, Representative Weber said that the organization educates the public about Kansas' sports heroes and that if the Kansas Sports Hall of Fame can establish a stable funding source, it will be able to market itself through "on-campus" activities and other events. This would enable the agency to further its mission and raise private funds. She further noted that a foundation could be established to enable the Hall of Fame to operate on the interest from invested dollars.

Finally, Representative Weber explained that Kansas Sports Hall of Fame supporters provide their local university or college the ability to have ownership in the agency. She also said, the Kansas Sports Hall of Fame will contain a "Community College Achievements" section, a "NCAA Division II Achievements" section, or a "NCAA Division I Achievements" section. Each display would highlight athletic achievements and give credit to athletes and coaches who may be left out of inductions simply because they did not play for a certain university or college.

The other conferees expressed general support for the bill.

The House Committee amendment would make the bill effective upon publication in the *Kansas Register*.

The Senate Committee amendment would add a 50 cent surcharge on tickets for state championship games of high schools under the jurisdiction of the Kansas State High School Activities Association. The championship games involved would be men's and women's basketball, football, and women's volleyball.

The Senate Committee amendment also would add four members to the Kansas Sports Hall of Fame Board of Trustees. Three new members would be representatives of schools under the jurisdiction of the Board of Regents and one would be a representative of the

Kansas State High School Activities Association. This provision of the amendment would sunset in four years.

The Senate amendment would provide that the University of Kansas and Kansas State University would develop a plan to raise \$15,000 each rather than collect the surcharge on tickets for the 2002 football season. The amendment would also direct the Kansas Sports Hall of Fame to work with accredited independent institutions to develop a plan to raise funds for the Hall of Fame.

The Conference Committee deleted the previous provisions of the bill and inserted new language to provide for a loan of \$100,000 to the Kansas Sports Hall of Fame from the Kansas Export Loan Guarantee Fund within the Department of Commerce and Housing. The loan would be made on July 1, 2002, and repayment would be required by June 30, 2004. The bill would also encourage voluntary monetary participation by the Board of Regents and accredited independent institutions. Finally, the bill would require the Kansas Sports Hall of Fame to submit quarterly reports to the House Appropriations Committee and the Senate Ways and Means Committee when the Legislature is in session and the Legislative Budget Committee when the Legislature is not in session.