

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE FEDERAL & STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Mays at 1:40 p.m. on April 10, 2002 in Room 313-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative Mary Cook, Excused
Representative Todd Novascone, Excused
Representative Bill McCreary, Excused

Committee staff present: Mary Torrence, Revisor of Statutes
Russell Mills, Legislative Research Analyst
Shelia Pearman, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Senator Anthony Hensley
Senator Dave Jackson
Representative Vaughn Flora
Representative Lana Gordon
John Glassman, Great Overland Station Executive Director
Raul Guevara, Buena Gente
Bob St. John, Great Overland Station
Leo Prieto, U.S. Leadership Hispanic Institute
Andy Sanchez, KAPE for AFL-CIO

Others attending: See attached list

Chairman Mays opened the hearing on **SCR 1620 - National holiday honoring Cesar Chavez.** Senator Hensley stated Chavez ranks among the 20th Century individuals such as Winston Churchill, Martin Luther King, Jr. and is deserving of this day of honor.

Mr. Prieto stated Chavez, founder of the United Farm Workers, laid the foundation for justice and freedom. He urged the committee to request Congress adopt a federal holiday to encourage states and schools to incorporate lessons on commemorating this inspiring hero. (Attachment #1)

Representative Flora provided information about Chavez's life and leadership of the United Farm Workers Union. He rose in support of a holiday honoring Chavez. (Attachment #2)

Mr. Guevara requested a holiday honoring Chavez because of his leadership in obtaining better working conditions and fair wages for farm workers. He cited Mr. Chavez was awarded the Medal of Freedom in 1994, America's highest honor for non-military personnel. He cited the Hispanic community has surpassed 35.3 million and is about to become the largest minority in the nation. The goal, he stated, is to influence history instead of merely observing it. (Attachment #3)

Mr. Sanchez rose in support of the resolution because Cesar Chavez promoted workplace standards and an economic ladder for all workers. He stated it would provide additional inspiration to the Latino/Hispanic citizens. (Attachment #4)

Written testimony was submitted by Elias Garcia, Kansas Democratic Hispanic Caucus, in support of a national holiday honoring Chavez. (Attachment #5)

No other conferees appeared before the committee. The hearing was closed.

Representative Rehorn made a motion to adopt SCR 1620. Representative Burroughs seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Chairman Mays opened the hearing on **SCR 1624 - Designating Great Overland Station as the state railroad museum.** Senator Jackson stated the station is undergo renovation and is envisioned to be a major tourist attraction and will possibly have a Native American Museum in the area. (Attachment #6)

Representative Gordon spoke in support of **SCR 1624.**

Mr. St. John stated the Great Overland Station will have exhibits featuring the major railroads which

served Kansas including the only major railroad founded in Kansas still operating today, Burlington Northern Santa Fe. (Attachment #7)

Mr. Glassman stated the museum has just been approved to become a National Historic site.

Written testimony submitted by Representative Hutchins supported the designation which would focus on the railroad heritage of the entire state. (Attachment #8)

No other conferees appeared before the committee, so the hearing was closed.

Representative Wilson made a motion to amend SCR 1624 to read “a state railroad museum”. Representative Peterson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Representative Hutchins made a motion to adopt SCR 1624 as amended. Representative Cox seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Chairman Mays requested attention to **SB 383 - Interlocal agreements with Native American Indian tribes.** Representative Benlon advised the committee a similar interlocal agreement is pending in conference in the Higher Education Committee and stated she believes it will be addressed tomorrow. Chairman decided to delay action and will call another meeting if necessary.

Chairman Mays requested attention to **SB 465 - Renewal of licenses issued under liquor control act or club and drinking establishment act; tax liability.** During discussion of the bill, **Representative Rehorn made a conceptual motion to amend sections 1B1 and 2B1 making it discretionary to issue license. Representative Cox seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

Representative Rehorn made a conceptual motion to apply same rules to CMB establishments which are issued a stamp. Representative Ruff seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Representative Cox made a motion to recommend SB 465 favorable for passage as amended. Representative Ruff seconded the motion. The motion failed 6-10.

Representative Benlon made the motion to approve January 23 - April 3 minutes. Representative Ruff seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m. Any additional meetings would be at the call of the Chair.