

MINUTES

JOINT COMMITTEE ON STATE-TRIBAL RELATIONS

August 26, 2002
Room 519-S—Statehouse

Members Present

Representative Tony Powell, Chairperson
Senator Lana Oleen, Vice Chairperson
Representative Bonnie Sharp, Ranking Minority
Senator David Haley
Representative Melany Barnes
Representative Becky Hutchins
Representative Doug Mays
Julene Miller, Attorney General's Representative

Staff Present

Russell Mills, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Dennis Hodgins, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Amy Kramer, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes Office

Conferees

Larry Morandi, National Conference of State Legislatures
Andrea Wilkins, National Conference of State Legislatures
Ron Hein, Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation

Chairperson Powell called the meeting to order. He announced that the August 27, 2002, meeting had been cancelled and that today's meeting would be for planning the Committee's interim work.

The Committee approved the minutes of the meetings held on December 18-19, 2001, and May 3, 2002, without objection.

Comments were made by the past Chairperson, Senator Lana Oleen, and Representative Bonnie Sharp, the Ranking Minority Member, regarding the past work of the Joint Committee.

Chairperson Powell introduced Larry Morandi and Andrea Wilkins, who are staff members with the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL). They briefly reviewed a new NCSL publication entitled "Models of Cooperation Between States and Tribes."

The Committee discussed reviewing the following topics at future meetings.

Chairperson Powell stated that the Joint Committee should have discussion on the issue of the proposed new casino in Wyandotte County and on the policy of allowing the Tribal Chairs to sit with the Committee. The Committee may want to review the authorizing legislation regarding the membership of the Committee. Chairperson Powell stated that he wants to hear from the Governor's Office, the Tribal Chairs, and the public regarding this issue.

Vice Chairperson Oleen stated that she would like to have a staff review of the NCSL publication entitled "Models of Cooperation Between States and Tribes" at a future meeting. Senator Oleen also suggested that the Committee review the economic impact of the casinos by hearing from representatives of Chamber of Commerce and banking officials. She suggested that a representative of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) be invited to address the Committee, that the Tribal Chairs submit possible topics for study to the Committee, and that the Committee receive an update on the Pikitanoi Water Project.

Senator Haley requested that the Committee be provided an update on the status of the Wyandotte County litigation.

Representative Sharp requested input from the tribes on the *Ad Astra* project to place a statue on the State Capitol dome.

Julene Miller, Attorney General's Representative, suggested that the Committee hold a discussion on the current federal and state statutes which apply to Native American burial grounds.

Ron Hein, Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, requested that the Committee again consider the issue of the tribal law enforcement authority and powers. He noted that the Committee had introduced bills on this topic for the last three years.

Representative Barnes requested an update on tribal license plate litigation.

The meeting was adjourned.

Prepared by Dennis Hodgins
Edited by Russell Mills

Approved by Committee on:

September 27, 2002
(date)