

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMERCE COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Karin Brownlee at 8:30 a.m. on January 22, 2003 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present: April Holman, Legislative Research  
Deb Hollon, Legislative Research  
Mitch Rice, Revisor of Statutes  
Jodie Anspaugh, Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Dr. David Darling, K-State Research and Extension

Others attending: See attached list.

Chairperson Brownlee asked for bill introductions. Steve Kelly with the Department of Commerce introduced a bill on venture capital. Mr. Kelly gave an overview of the proposed bill. Senator Kerr moved to introduce the bill. Senator Steineger seconded. The motion carried. Mr. Kelly distributed copies of his proposed bill. (Attachment 1).

Chairperson Brownlee welcomed Dr. David Darling with K-State Research and Extension. Dr. Darling gave a presentation on rural economic development in Kansas. Dr. Darling has worked on programs in every county of the state. He handed out Kansas maps showing the 2002 economic strength and the growth levels during the 1990's of each county. Dr. Darling concluded his formal remarks with his professional recommendations for rural economic development. (Attachments 2 and 3).

Following his presentation, Dr. Darling answered questions from the committee on local leadership development, tourism, the PRIDE program, and the effectiveness of state programs for rural development.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 23, 2003 at 8:30 a.m.