

Approved: 3-30-12
Date

MINUTES OF THE SENATE FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pete Brungardt at 10:30 a.m. on March 14, 2012, in Room 144-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Jason Long, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Tamera Lawrence, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Dennis Hodgins, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Connie Burns, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Secretary Karin Brownlee, Kansas Department of Labor
Representative Don Hineman
Representative Ward Cassidy
Representative Rick Billinger
Curtis Eveligh, Norton County Community Services

Others attending:

See attached list.

SB 356—Amusement ride regulation; removing exception for home-owned amusement rides

Chairman Brungardt opened the hearing on **SB 356**.

Staff provided an overview of the bill and provided the balloon. (Attachment 1)

Representative Don Hineman spoke in favor of the bill with the amendment. (Attachment 2) The amended form of the bill recognizes that there is a very real difference between commercial carnivals and home-owned carnivals; which includes how frequently the carnival rides are used and how they are operated. The bill protects the safety of carnival patrons without burdening the home-owned carnivals with expensive regulations that would threaten their continued existence.

Representative Ward Cassidy spoke in favor of the amendment and bill. (Attachment 3) To put more restrictions on home owned amusement rides other than proof of insurance, would be unfair and the added additional cost could completely change the opportunity to provide inexpensive, family fun at local fairs.

Representative Rick Billinger spoke in favor of the amendment and he thanked the Secretary for bringing it forward.

Secretary Karin Brownlee, Kansas Department of Labor, (KDOL) appeared in support of the bill with amendments. (Attachment 4) The Secretary provided the Kansas Amusement Ride Act procedures. The

CONTINUATION SHEET

The minutes of the Federal and State Committee at 10:30 a.m. on March 14, 2012, in Room 144-S of the Capitol.

bill would request the submittal of proof of general liability insurance to KDOL annually and make the insurance information available upon request. KDOL would also have the ability to write any needed rules and regulations to carry out this act. The purpose of requiring the proof of insurance is that inspection then becomes the function of the insurance. If an insurance company is willing to insure these rides, they share the interest of reducing the risk associated with this coverage.

The Secretary stated that the Department did not want to create a structure which would be too costly or overly burdensome, but also ensure that the children who would ride any amusement rides in our state would have a reasonable expectation that their safety is of the utmost importance.

Curtis Eveligh, Norton County Community Services, spoke on the accident that triggered the bill.

Senator Ralph Ostmeyer provided written testimony on the bill. ([Attachment 5](#)) Senator Allen Schmidt provided written testimony on the bill. ([Attachment 6](#))

Chairman Brungardt closed the hearing on **SB 356**.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 15, 2012. The meeting was adjourned at 11:23 a.m.