

## MINUTES OF THE SENATE JUDICIARY

The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Vratil at 9:30 a.m. on January 13, 2009, in Room 545-N of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Jason Thompson, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
Doug Taylor, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
Jerry Donaldson, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Athena Andaya, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Karen Clowers, Committee Assistant

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairman Vratil opened the meeting and provided a history of the Judicial Committee gavel. He introduced Whitney Damron, Kansas Bar Association to conduct the passing of the gavel from Chairman Vratil to Chairman Owens. Following the presentation, Chairman Owens assumed chair of the meeting. He welcomed members of the committee and provided guidelines for committee meetings.

### Introduction of Bills

Randy Hearrell, Kansas Judicial Council, requested the committee to introduce of five bills. The first bill would amend the Kansas Administrative Procedure Act to strengthen the protections for fair and impartial adjudication. The second bill would amend the Revised Kansas Code for Care of Children and the Revised Kansas Juvenile Justice Code to address issues of consistency in the codes, federal law compliance, confidentiality of reports and records and prioritization of orders relating to children. The third bill would amend the Uniform Principal and Income Act to add a "unitrust conversion statute". The fourth bill amends the Kansas Power of Attorney Act to add changes modeled after provisions of the Uniform Power of Attorney Act. The fifth bill would establish a Kansas False Claims Act. The bills were introduced without objection.

Kyle Smith, Topeka Police Department, requested the introduction of a bill to create a statewide Kansas Crimestoppers position in the AG's office. The bill was introduced without objection.

Patrick Hubbell, Tyson Foods, requested the introduction of a bill regarding the garnishment of wages. The bills was introduced without objection.

Senator Derek Schmidt introduced two bills. The first would provide a sentencing enhancement for use of a firearm in the commission of a drug crime. The second bill would expand the open container statute to include narcotics and certain restricted substances. The bills were introduced without objection.

### Interim Review

Jerry Donaldson, Kansas Legislative Research Department, provided a review of four topics addressed in the Report of the Special Committee on Judiciary to the 2009 Kansas Legislature by the Kansas Legislative Research Department. Topics included:

- Kansas Open Records Act
- Benefits for Law Enforcement Officers Killed or Injured in the Line of Duty
- Victim of Identity Theft
- Review of Foster Care System

Following the review, Senator Vratil introduced a bill recommended by the interim committee regarding the Kansas Open Records Act. The bill was introduced without objection.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 14, 2009.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.