

MINUTES OF THE SENATE FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Senator Lana Oleen at 11:05 a.m. on March 28, 2000 in Room 245-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Senator Laurie Bleeker, excused
Senator John Vratil

Committee staff present: Mary Galligan, Legislative Research Department
Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes
Judy Glasgow, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Senator Vidricksen
Barbara Hinton, Legislative Post Audit
Joe Fritton, Acting Director of Facilities Management
Dave Finley, Plumbing, Heating & Mechanical Contractors
Bruce Pfeifer, International Assoc. of Plumbing and
Mechanical Officials
Donald Rathbone, Board of Technical Professionals
Trudy Aron, American Institute of Architects
George Barbee, Kansas Consulting Engineers
Charles A. Strycker, Kansas Society of Professional Engineers

Others attending: See Attached Sheet

Chairman Oleen opened the hearing on:

SB 669 – Rental of Office space for state agencies, control and coordination by secretary of administration

Chairman Oleen recognized Senator Vidricksen as a proponent to this bill. Senator Vidricksen reported that this bill was the result of a requested audit on leasing purchase or lease. Legislative Post Audit came up with a change in procedure that would let the Secretary of Administration work out the procedure on leasing contracts rather than each individual agency.

Chairman Oleen announced Representative Phil Kline indicated that he might appear before the committee when the House of Representatives adjourns. Chairman Oleen stated that she would accommodate his schedule.

Chairman Oleen recognized Barbara Hinton, Legislative Post Audit, as a proponent to **SB 669**. Barbara Hinton stated that the bill would grant a single agency the authority to enter into lease arrangements for the State. She stated that currently this authority doesn't exist. (Attachment 1). Barbara Hinton stated that it appeared that Kansas was in the minority in not having centralized lease negotiations, and that the potential benefits from such a process outweighed the limitations. She noted that the bill provides that leases of more than 10,000 square feet or for a term longer than 60 months would be brought before the joint committee on state building construction.

Chairman Oleen recognized Joe Fritton, Acting Director Division of Facilities Management, as a proponent to **SB 669**. Mr. Fritton stated that the bill provides the following advantages 1) enables development of consistent space standards; 2) standardizes the method of leasing property to the state; 3) enables the state to negotiate for volume discounts. 4) increases the knowledge and expertise of state lease negotiators 5) prevents agencies from engaging in bidding wars over space and 6) enables the state to save dollars by taking advantage of agency office space consolidation. (Attachment 2) Mr. Fritton offered an amendment from the Department of Administration to collect fees to cover the cost of centralized leasing.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS, Room 245-N Statehouse, at 11:05 a.m. on March 28, 2000.

Chairman Oleen announced that no action would be taken on the bill today, and closed the hearing on **SB 669**. Chairman Oleen opened the hearing on

SB 666 – Plumbing, mechanical, heating, refrigeration, air-conditioning contractors

Chairman Oleen recognized David Finley, Executive Director Kansas Plumbing, Heating, Cooling, Contractors Association, Inc. a proponent to **SB 666**. Mr. Finley stated that approximately 40 other states have uniform state licensing. (Attachment 3). Mr. Finley stated that this bill was very similar to a bill in the house which would have authorized the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) to license plumbers. He stated that in response to opponents to that bill, the licensing agency was changed to the Kansas Board of Technical Professionals, but after discussion with the Board of Technical Professionals, he requested that the bill be referred to an interim committee.

Chairman Oleen recognized Bruce Pfeiffer, Chapter Chairman of the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials, as a proponent to **SB 666**. Mr. Pfeiffer stated that he has been a plumber for 25 years and though most cities and towns have licensing requirements, they are not uniform. (Attachment 4). He stated that requiring minimum apprenticeships, uniformity in training and continuing education will raise the level of competency.

Chairman Oleen turned to opponents of SB 666 and recognized Donald Rathbone, Board of Technical Professions. Mr. Rathbone stated that the Kansas State Board of Technical Professions is the licensing and regulatory agency for the professions of architects, professional engineers, land surveyors, landscape architects and geologists. (Attachments 5). He stated that this is a volunteer board and that to add plumbing, mechanical, heating, refrigeration, air-conditioning and ventilation would be overwhelming and inconsistent with the current jurisdiction.

Chairman Oleen recognized Trudy Aron, American Institute of Architects, as an opponent to **SB 666**. Ms. Aron stated that the American Institute of Architects strongly oppose any building trades from regulation under the Kansas State Board of Technical Professions. (Attachment 6). Ms. Aron suggested that a new construction trade board be enacted.

Chairman Oleen recognized George Barbee, Executive Director of Consulting Engineers as an opponent to **SB 666**. Mr. Barbee stated that the design of one and two family dwellings are exempt from the licensing statutes governed by the Board of Technical Professions which would be services by the plumbing, heating and refrigeration and air-conditioning contractors. (Attachment 7).

Chairman Oleen recognized Charles Stryker, Kansas Society of Professional Engineers, as an opponent to **SB 666**. Mr. Stryker stated that Kansas State Board of Technical Professions does not have a position about state licensure and regulation of building trades. (Attachment 8). He stated that the Board does not have the staff or resources to adequately handle an additional responsibility.

Chairman Oleen noted that written testimony was received from Mike Taylor, City of Wichita (Attachment 9); James Lanzrath, Executive Plumbing (Attachment 10); Lowell Thiesen, Thiesen, Plumbing (Attachment 11) Gary Schmidt, Ray Omo Plumbing (Attachment 12) as proponents of **SB 666**

Chairman Oleen closed the hearing on **SB 666**.

Chairman Oleen stated that the committee would return to **HB 2687–Real estate brokers’ and salespersons’ license act**. Karen France, representing Kansas Association of Realtors, responded to questions from the committee on how the sales contract would be handled between the realtor and the seller. Senator Biggs moved to report HB 2687 favorably to the full Senate. Senator Gooch seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Chairman Oleen ask for action on minutes of the committee for March 21, March 22 and March 22 at the rail.

CONTINUATION SHEET

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Senator Gooch moved to approved the minutes; Senator Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon. The next meeting will be on the call of the Chairman.