

MINUTES OF THE SENATE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dwayne Umbarger at 10:30 A.M. on March 22, 2006, in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Jill Wolters, Revisor of Statutes Office  
Michael Corrigan, Revisor of Statutes Office  
J. G. Scott, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Reagan Cussimano, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Audrey Dunkel, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Debra Hollon, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Carolyn Rampey, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Amy VanHouse, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Judy Bromich, Chief of Staff  
Mary Shaw, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Steve Weatherford, President, Kansas Development Finance Authority  
Rodney Geisler, Kansas Department of Health and Environment  
Eric Rucker, Senior Deputy Attorney General  
Michael Donnelly, Director of Policy and Research, Disability Rights Center of Kansas  
Lynn Kohr  
Nancy Jensen  
Kerri Bacon, Kansas Commission on Disability Concerns  
Jerry Sloan, Office of Judicial Administration  
John Badger, Chief Counsel, Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services (written)  
Kathy Ostrowski, State Legislative Director, Kansans for Life (written)

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairman Umbarger turned the Committee's attention to discussion of:

**SB 588--Establishing the Kansas technical college and vocational education school commission**

Senator Emler moved, with a second by Senator Taddiken, to amend SB 588 to change the membership of the commission to include the president of a technical college. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Senator Teichman moved, with a second by Senator Schodorf, to amend SB 588 to provide that consideration in selection of members of the commission be given toward individuals in the business community and instructional staff, and that staffing of the commission would include Legislative Administrative Services and others as directed by the Legislative Coordinating Council. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Senator Morris moved, with a second by Senator Betts, to amend SB 588 to include adding the President of the Kansas Board of Regents as an ex officio, non voting member of the commission. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Senator Teichman moved, with a second by Senator Kelly, to recommend SB 588 favorable for passage as amended. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

The Chairman opened the public hearing on:

**HB 2949--Purposes for disbursements from the public water supply loan fund**  
**HB 2956--Allocations from Kansas water pollution control revolving fund**

## CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE Senate Ways and Means Committee at 10:30 A.M. on March 22, 2006, in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

Staff briefed the Committee on the bills.

The Chairman welcomed the following conferees:

Steve Weatherford, President, Kansas Development Finance Authority, testified in support of **HB 2949** and **HB 2956** (Attachment 1). Mr. Weatherford explained that the Kansas Development Finance Authority and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment believe that the inclusion of cross-collateralization capabilities is an important step in the evolution of the Kansas State Revolving Fund (SRF) Programs. He noted that it is becoming increasingly important for the managers of these programs to identify new financial techniques to add value to these programs, as Congress and the Administration reduce the amount of federal dollars allocated to the SRF programs. In closing, Mr. Weatherford explained that bonds issued on behalf of the SRF programs are never obligations of the State, and are solely obligations of the municipal borrowers of the programs.

Rodney Geisler, Division of Environment/Bureau of Water, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, spoke in support of **HB 2949** and **HB 2956** (Attachment 2). Mr. Geisler explained that passage of both bills allows the assets of one loan fund to be used as a source of security to assure repayment of revenue bonds issued by the Kansas Development Finance Authority on behalf of the other loan fund. He noted that this concept, cross collateralization, provides an additional guarantee to bond holders that their investments will be returned as promised, and they anticipate reduced borrowing costs as a result.

There being no further conferees to appear before the Committee, the Chairman closed the public hearing on **HB 2949** and **HB 2956**.

Senator Barone moved, with a second by Senator Emler, to amend the provisions of **HB 2956** into **HB 2949** and recommend **HB 2949** favorable for passage as amended. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

Chairman Umbarger opened the public hearing on:

### **SB 239--Docket fees for the protection and advocacy for Kansans with disabilities fund**

Staff briefed the Committee on the bill.

The Chairman welcomed the following conferees in support of the bill:

Eric Rucker, Senior Deputy Attorney General, (Attachment 3). Mr. Rucker explained that **SB 239** would provide the Attorney General greater access to pertinent records maintained by other state agencies dealing with allegations of abuse. He noted that it would likely increase the efficiency of investigators.

Michael Donnelly, Director of Policy and Research, Disability Rights Center of Kansas (Attachment 4). Mr. Donnelly explained that the bill would close the glaring gaps in the current protection system for Kansans with disabilities. His written testimony details closing these gaps and opens opportunities for justice. In closing, Mr. Donnelly noted that by passing **SB 239**, the Legislature would provide real and effective protections for Kansans with disabilities and ensure more certain and swift justice in the future.

Lynn (Attachment 5). Lynn, a Kaufman House Survivor, explained her experiences as a resident of the Kaufman houses from the years 1985 to 1986. She noted that she wanted to save future people from having to endure what she endured and what her friends endured.

Nancy (Attachment 6). Nancy, explained her experiences as a resident of the Kaufman house from March 1986 to March 1987. She noted that the memories of that house of horrors still haunt her today.

Kerri Bacon, Kansas Commission on Disability Concerns (Attachment 7). Ms. Bacon explained that the bill would establish funding for investigation, advocacy, legal representation, and criminal prosecution to protect the rights of persons with disabilities and encourages support for the bill.

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Jerry Sloan, Office of Judicial Administration, asked that his testimony be ignored in that it referred to the original **SB 239** before the substitute bill was described (Attachment 8).

John Badger, Chief Counsel, Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services, submitted written testimony on **SB 239** (Attachment 9).

Kathy Ostrowski, State Legislative Director, Kansans for Life, submitted written testimony on **SB 239** (Attachment 10).

There being no further conferees to appear before the Committee, the Chairman closed the public hearing on **SB 239**.

Senator McGinn moved, with a second by Senator Betts, to amend some of the provisions of **SB 239** into **HB 2105**. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Senator McGinn moved, with a second by Senator Betts, to recommend Senate Substitute for **HB 2105** favorable for passage.

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m. The next meeting was scheduled for March 23, 2006.