

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ENERGY AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Carl Holmes at 9:00 A.M. on March 1, 2007 in Room 241-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Josh Svaty-excused
Don Myers-excused

Committee staff present:

Mary Galligan, Kansas Legislative Research
Dennis Hodgins, Kansas Legislative Research
Mary Torrence, Revisor's Office
Jason Long, Revisor's Office
Rena Hansen, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Vaughn Flora, Representative
Tom Hawk, Representative
Tom Thompson, Sierra Club
Tom Gross, KS Dept. Health and Environment
Bill Eastman, Westar

Others attending:

Fifty including the attached list.

Hearing on:

HB 2526- Monitoring and analysis of mercury deposition samples in Kansas.

Proponent:

Tom Hawk, Representative, (Attachment 1), presented testimony on **HB 2526** noting some of the hazards of mercury deposits in our environment. He also noted (Attachment 2) a recommended change in the language on this bill.

Vaughn Flora, Representative, (Attachment 3), offered testimony in support of **HB 2526**. Attached are a cost analysis of this implementation and additionally a Kansas state advisory of fish mercury content guidelines from the State Department of Health and Environment

Tom Thompson, Sierra Club, (Attachment 4), offered support of **HB 2526**. Attached was a map showing the Total Mercury Wet Deposition taken in 2004.

Tom Gross, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, (Attachment 5), offered testimony in support of **HB 2526**, including attachments of where some of the mercury samples are taken in Kansas and included a picture of a machine that takes the samples. Additionally, he included the 2005 Mercury Wet Deposition map.

Written Proponent:

Mary Helen Korbelik, Mission Hills Kansas, (Attachment 6), offered an email testimony in support of **HB 2526**.

Questions were asked by Representatives: Tom Sloan, Annie Kuether, Carl Holmes, Terry McLachlan, Margaret Long, Vaughn Flora, and Vern Swanson.

In addition to conferees questions were answered by Ron Hammerschmidt., Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Energy and Utilities Committee at 9:00 A.M. on March 1, 2007 in Room 241-N of the Capitol.

Neutral:

Bill Eastman, Westar, (Attachment 7) , presented testimony that was neutral in its intent towards **HB 2526**.

Paul Snider, KCPL, (Attachment 8), presented neutral testimony to **HB 2526** noting some of the ways that KCPL has been progressive in dealing with environmental issues. He also noted that there should be some modifications to the bill.

Questions were asked by Representatives: Tom Sloan, Forrest Knox, Terry McLachlan, Vaughn Flora, Margaret Long, and Carl Holmes.

The hearing on **HB 2526** was closed.

HB 2526 will be worked next Tuesday..

Representative Annie Kuether moved to introduce a resolution for petroleum a reserve in the state of Kansas from the House of Representatives in Kansas. Representative Tom Sloan seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Representative Carl Holmes made the committee aware that Kansas is getting a \$76 million dollar federal grant towards a \$200 million dollar cellulosic alcohol plant to be built in Kansas.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 2, 2007.

Meeting adjourned.