

# Journal of the Senate

FIFTY-SIXTH DAY

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SENATE CHAMBER, TOPEKA, KANSAS  
Thursday, May 9, 2013, 10:30 a.m.

The Senate was called to order by Vice President Jeff King.

The roll was called with thirty-nine members present.

Senator Apple was excused.

Invocation by Father Don Davidson:

Dear Heavenly Father, I thank you for the beauty of this day, for life, health and strength. Bless our legislators and the work they do, and bless their families far and wide. Guide and direct them in their work and be with all our leaders that in all things and in every way, your will may be done. Amen.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice President Jeff King.

## REFERENCE OF BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills were referred to Committee as indicated:

Ways and Means: **SB 245, SB 246.**

## COMMUNICATIONS FROM STATE OFFICERS

### KANSAS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

May 8, 2013

Executive Director, William V. Minner submitted a copy of the Annual Report, Fiscal Year 2012, July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012.

In addition, Executive Director, William V. Minner reported the celebration of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Commission.

Vice President Jeff King announce that the above report is on file in the office of the Secretary of the Senate and is available for review at any time.

## INTRODUCTION OF ORIGINAL MOTIONS AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

Senator Haley introduced the following Senate resolution, which was read:

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1757—

A RESOLUTION recognizing the misuse and abuse of prescription drug medications as a major threat to public health and safety in Kansas and nationwide.

WHEREAS, Drug abuse in the United States increasingly means the misuse and

abuse of prescription drug medications. Drug overdose is now the second most common cause of accidental death in the nation, killing more than gunshot wounds and behind only traffic accidents; and

WHEREAS, Prescription drugs are a substantial factor in a growing number of American deaths considered to be drug induced. Emergency room visits and unintentional overdose deaths involving prescription drugs have increased sharply; and

WHEREAS, National data show that as many as 16 million Americans age 12 or older have abused controlled prescription medications, including pain relievers, tranquilizers, sedatives and stimulants; and

WHEREAS, Barry R. Grissom, United States Attorney, District of Kansas, has declared that "prescription drugs are being used, misused, and abused at an alarming rate" and that he is "seeing more cases of accidental poisoning, addiction and overdose deaths. It is not an overstatement to call this an epidemic in the truest sense of the word. It has become a major threat to public health and public safety."; and

WHEREAS, Unused prescription narcotics at home contribute to drug abuse and risks of accidental deaths of children and the elderly. The second leading source of abused prescription drugs is in the home medicine cabinet. The number one source is friends and relatives, who often get the prescription drugs from other people's medicine cabinets. This demonstrates the importance of disposing unused prescription medications rather than leaving them in a medicine cabinet at home; and

WHEREAS, Americans that participated in the U.S. Department of Justice Drug Enforcement Administration's third National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day in 2012 turned in more than 552,161 pounds, or 276 tons, of prescription drugs at over 5,600 sites operated by the DEA and nearly 4,300 state and local law enforcement partners. Last year, more than 5,300 pounds of unused prescription drugs were collected during Kansas' drug take-back day. On April 27, 2013, Kansans set a new record during the national drug take-back day event, collecting more than 10,000 pounds, or 5 tons, of unused medications from 101 locations across the state; and

WHEREAS, It must be recognized that a drug cabinet full of old or unused prescription medicine is a health hazard, increasing the risk of poison and abuse among adults, teenagers and children across the state and across the nation: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we recognize the misuse and abuse of prescription drug medications as a major threat to public health and safety in Kansas and nationwide; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate shall send an enrolled copy of this resolution to Senator Haley.

On emergency motion of Senator Haley **SR 1757** was adopted unanimously.

#### **MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE**

**HCR 5018**, A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION honoring native Kansan, Army Chaplain Father Emil Kapaun, Medal of Honor winner, was introduced and read by title.

On emergency motion of Senator Wagle, **HCR 5018** was adopted by voice vote.

#### **ORIGINAL MOTION**

On motion of Senator Ostmeyer, the Senate acceded to the request of the House for a

conference on **S Sub for HB 2199**.

Vice President Jeff King appointed Senators Ostmeyer, Emler and Faust-Goudeau as conferees on the part of the Senate.

On motion of Senator Bruce, the Senate adjourned until 9:30 a.m., Friday, May 10, 2013.

HELEN MORELAND, ROSE MARIE GLATT, CHARLENE BAILEY, *Journal Clerks*.

DIANE MINEAR, *Secretary of the Senate*.

