

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kenny Wilk at 11:40 a.m. on May 2, 2001, in Room 514-S of the Capitol.

All members were present

Committee staff present: Alan Conroy, Legislative Research
Rae Anne Davis, Legislative Research
Amy Kramer, Legislative Research
Paul West, Legislative Research
Jim Wilson, Revisor of Statutes
Mike Corrigan, Revisor of Statutes
Nikki Feuerborn, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Dr. Kim Wilcox, Board of Regents
Harold Stones, Office of Congressman Pat Roberts

Others attending: See Attached

Chairman Wilk distributed copies of a Scope Statement for a proposed performance audit by the Division of Post Audit, The Division of Information Systems and Communications: Reviewing Issues Relating to Rate Charges, Expenditures, and Costs (Attachment 1). He pointed out that there are many unanswered questions regarding the rates charged state agencies for their services, the monetary reserves being accumulated by DISC, possible savings by outsourcing certain functions, the leasing of equipment vs. purchasing computer systems, etc. A performance audit would address these and other pertinent concerns.

Representative Landwehr moved for the House Committee on Appropriations to request that the Legislative Post Audit Committee authorize a performance audit of DISC in accordance with the Scope Statement, to be completed in the next 18 to 24 months. Motion was seconded by Representative Neufeld. Motion carried.

Chairman Wilk presented copies of proposed legislation concerning the State Board of Regents relating to a research initiative for state educational institutions establishing the regents research facilities enhancement fund (Attachment 2).

Dr. Kim Wilcox, Office of the State Board of Regents, presented testimony in support of such legislation which would allow the Board of Regents to undertake an initiative for the expansion and development of research activities and opportunities at state institutions including the building and remodeling of research facilities. It was pointed out that this proposed legislation does not authorize bonding.

Harold Stones informed the Committee that there is federal grant money available for "bricks and mortar" in the area of research and development.

Representative Pottorff moved to amend **HB 2524** by striking the existing language in **HB 2524** and inserting the language found in lrs1336 as a substitute bill (Attachment 2). Motion was seconded by Representative Ballard. Motion carried.

Representative Pottorff moved to pass **Substitute for HB 2524** as amended. Motion was seconded by Representative Ballard. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.