

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ETHICS AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Representative Tony Powell at 3:30 p.m. on March 11, 2002 in Room 521-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present: Ken Wilke, Revisor  
Hank Avila, Research  
Shirley Weideman, Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Brad Bryant, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State

Others attending: See attached list.

Chairman Powell opened the hearing on **SB 468 - Technical clean up amendments to election laws.**

Chair Powell welcomed Brad Bryant, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, as a proponent for **SB 468**. He told the committee that this is a clean-up bill that was introduced in the Senate. It's three provisions are 1) clarifies the circumstances under which a voter's registration may be canceled by the county election officer, 2) deletes an unnecessary word "two" in K.S.A. 25-3102, which deals with filling temporary vacancies on county boards of canvassers (the previous statute assumed there were only three commissioners) and 3) reduces the statutory qualifications of persons who circulate gubernatorial candidate petitions (petition circulators do not have to be registered voters or residents of the election district where they circulate petitions). Mr. Bryant proposed a technical amendment to **SB 468** regarding recall petitions to strike out "and only in the election district in which such sponsor resides" in the sentence following the title of **25-4324**. He also directed the committee's attention to the two amendments by the Senate Committee on Elections and Local Government. One amended the title of the bill by deleting the word "technical." The other amendment deletes "and the county election officer" and "jointly" from section 2. This last amendment gives the sole responsibility to the county commissioners of finding replacement canvassers to fill temporary vacancies on the board of county commissioners when they are acting as the board of canvassers to certify the results of elections. (Attachment 1)

Mr. Bryant responded to questions asked by committee members regarding how voters are removed from the voter registration list and concerning who is a "sponsor" of a petition.

The hearing was closed on **SB 468**.

Chair Powell opened the hearing on **SB 502 - Election administration procedures; nomination petitions and voter responsibility list.**

Brad Bryant, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, was recognized by Chairman Powell as a proponent of **SB 502**. He said that the Secretary of State proposed this bill as an election administration bill. It has two provisions: 1) grants authority to county election officers to determine the validity of candidate nominations in city and local school board elections (non-partisan elections) because no authority had been written into the law for local school boards, candidates filing for city at-large positions or candidates filing for city positions elected from member districts and 2) Section 4 of the bill amends K.S.A. 25-2706 to require the posting of Voter's Rights and Responsibilities at each polling place on election day. (Attachment 2)

Mr. Bryant answered committee members' questions about the requirement for residency of candidates in local and state elections and regarding voters' rights. He had some examples of Voter's Rights and Responsibilities. (Attachment 3)

Chairman Powell closed the hearing on **SB 502**.

The committee took up **SB 502**.

Representative Gilbert moved and it was seconded by Representative Hermes that **SB 468** be amended to **SB 502**. Motion carried.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ETHICS AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE at on March 11, 2002 in Room 521-S of the Capitol.

Representative Wilson moved to amend SB 502 to insert in Section 2 of SB 468 “in consultation with county election officers” so that it will read ‘the remaining member or members of the board in consultation with the county election officers shall select electors to serve in their place.’ The motion was seconded by Representative Barnes. Motion passed.

Representative Wilson moved and the motion was seconded by Representative Hermes to pass SB 502 as amended favorably from the committee. The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m. The next scheduled meeting is March 13 at 3:30 p.m. **[Meeting on March 13 was canceled.]**