

SELECT COMMITTEE ON KANSAS SECURITY

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lee Tafanelli at 1:20 p.m. on February 14, 2003 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Howell

Committee staff present:

Robert Walker, Legislative Research Department
Bruce Cans, Office of the Revisor
Carol Doel, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Dr. Jerry Jaax, Veterinarian and Assistant Vice
Provost of Research and Compliance, Kansas State
University

Dr. R.W. Trewyn, Vice Provost of Research and
Compliance, Kansas State University

Others attending:

See Attached Sheet

Chairman Tafanelli recognized and thanked Justin Holston, Propane Marketers, for providing lunch for the committee members.

Chairman Tafanelli introduced Dr. Jerry Jaax, Veterinarian and Assistant Vice Provost of Research and Compliance, Kansas State University who gave a presentation on bio-terrorism and agri-terrorism. Dr. Jaax explained that he was a career Army officer who retired about four years ago after spending the bulk of his career in medical defense against chemical and biological agents. Dr. Jaax explained that our most powerful tools against infectious disease are containment, isolation and quarantine and are virtually useless in the event of biologic warfare. Biologic warfare is the intentional use of micro-organisms or toxins derived from living organisms to spread disease in humans, animals or plants. This requires the necessity of infrastructure and sophisticated science and funding. Bio-terrorism is the random use of bio-warfare agents. These are used to demoralize the country and exact revenge or effect policy. The good news is that we have heightened awareness; pre-positioned materials such as vaccines and treatments, better planning, coordination, communication and training; improved intelligence, security and surveillance; reinvigorating public health infrastructure; and government reorganization (Homeland Defense Department). For further information, Dr. Jaax recommended rating a book named *Germ*s by Miller, Engelberg and Broad ([Attachment 1](#))

Dr. Jaax stood for questions following his presentation.

The second presentation before the committee was given by Dr. R.W. Trewyn, Vice Provost for Research/Dean of the Graduate School, Kansas State University. In his presentation, Dr. Trewyn, related that KSU (Kansas State University) has established the NABC (National Agricultural Biosecurity Center) to expand ongoing efforts to protect America's vital agricultural infrastructure and economy from endemic and emerging biological threats. Protecting America's food supply and associated agricultural infrastructure from

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE TAXATION COMMITTEE at 9:00 a.m. on February 14, 2003 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

deliberate acts of bio-terrorism is of paramount importance to the U.S. and world economics. KSU recognized the threat to America's agricultural economy well in advance of September 11, 2001 and initiated a comprehensive Food Safety and Security (FS2) program to address the threat. (Attachment 2)

Dr. Trewyn also provided to the committee the testimony presented to the US Senate's Emerging Threats Subcommittee in October of 1999 entitled **AGRICULTURAL, BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS THREAT, FOOD SAFETY, SECURITY, AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**, Kansas State University, Jon Wefald, President. (Attachment 3)

Dr. Trewyn stood for questions from the committee.

With no further business, Chairman Tafanelli adjourned the meeting at 3:10 p.m.