

## MINUTES OF THE HOUSE FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Arlen Siegfroid at 1:30 P.M. on March 7, 2005 in Room 313-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative John Edmonds- excused  
Representative Candy Ruff- excused  
Representative Kenny Wilk- excused

Committee staff present:

Athena Andaya, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Dennis Hodgins, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Mary Torrence, Revisor of Statutes Office  
Carol Doel, Committee Secretary

Conferees:

Glenn Thompson, Stand Up for Kansas  
Mary Torrence, Office of the Revisor

Others attending:

See attached list

Vice-Chairman Arlen Siegfroid called the meeting to order and opened the floor for bill introductions.

There were no bill introductions and the Vice-Chair opened public hearing on **HB 2479**.

Glenn Thompson, Executive Director, Stand Up For Kansas was recognized as a proponent of **HB 2479**. In his testimony, Mr. Thompson related that the purpose of this bill is to establish a process for the legislature, rather than the LCC, to consider proposed Indian gaming compacts when the legislature is not in session. He summarized the background that led to enactment of the statute. In the conclusion of his testimony, Mr. Thompson stated that current statutes provide for the LCC to ratify a compact when the legislature is not in session. This provision is no longer needed and may even be unconstitutional. Furthermore, the impact of a casino on local communities and the state is so great that only the legislature should have the authority to ratify a compact, as specified in **HB 2479**.

Mr. Thompson also addressed **SB 153**, which was also being heard, relating that this bill has the same objective as **HB 2479** except the provision in **SB 153** providing the governor the authority to call a special session is not required. Mr. Thompson states that it is the suggestion of his organization that the language in **SB 153** be replaced with the language in **HB 2479**. (Attachment 1)

With no other proponents and no opponents, the Vice-Chair closed the public hearing on **HB 2479** and opened the hearing on **SB 153** and asked Mary Torrence of the Revisor's Office to give a briefing on the difference between the two bills.

Mrs. Torrence stated that the difference between the two bills is fairly minuscule. She related that **HB 2479**, would require that if a compact were to be approved between two legislative sessions, it would require the Governor to call a special session or for a special session to be called. Under **SB 153**, there is a provision for a special session to be called by the Governor in between two regular sessions and it refers to the same constitutional provision as far as calling a special session. In either case, if a compact were to be ratified between sessions, it would require calling a special session of the legislature.

There were no proponents and no opponents to **SB 153**.

Vice-Chair Siegfroid asked for a motion to approve the minutes of February 9, 16, 17, 21, and 22.

Representative Dillmore made a motion to adopt the minutes as read. Representative Merrick seconded the motion. Vote was taken. Minutes were adopted.

With no further business before the committee, Vice-Chair Siegfried adjourned the meeting.