

MINUTES OF THE SENATE ELECTIONS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tim Huelskamp at 1:34 P.M. on January 25, 2005 in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

Committee members absent: Dennis Pyle- excused

Committee staff present: Martha Dorsey, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Mike Heim, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Ken Wilke, Revisor of Statutes
Janet Engel, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Carol Williams
Shelby Smith

Others attending: See attached list.

Bill Introductions

Senator O'Connor suggested a bill related to the timing overlap for voter registration and advance voting. It is drafted to permit the start of advance voting 14 days before the election. She noted that the current process permits one week of registering and voting on the same day. Senator O'Connor moved to introduce this legislation, seconded by Senator Reitz. The motion carried.

Hearing on SB 65 - an act concerning campaign finance; pertaining to certain daily reports of contributions.

Mike Heim, committee staff, described this bill. It establishes a new provision in the state campaign act requiring candidates to report contributions received during the last 11 days of the campaign and totaling \$300 per person by the end of the next business day. This bill corresponds to the second recommendation from the Ethics Commission. Mr. Heim fielded questions from Senators.

Proponents:

Carol Williams testified on behalf of the Governmental Ethics Commission. (Attachment 1 was her testimony and Attachment 2, item 2 recaps the Commission's recommendation.) She added that the new reports will be scanned and placed on-line for public access the same day they are received. There will be no fiscal impact whatsoever to implement this bill. Ms. Williams fielded questions and comments from the Senators.

Proponent Shelby Smith provided testimony on SB 64, SB 65, SB 66, and SB 67 (Attachment 3).

Senator Huelskamp closed the hearing.

Discussion on SB 65 among the Senators was started but there was not time for complete debate. Discussion will continue at a future meeting.

Closing

SB 67 will be heard and worked tomorrow. Thursday will be an informational session on ballot security and electronic voting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.