

Approved: March 14, 2008

Date

## MINUTES OF THE HOUSE AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Faber at 3:30 P.M. on February 25, 2008, in Room 783 of the DSOB.

All members were present except:

Representative John Grange- excused  
Representative Carl Holmes- excused  
Representative Bill Feuerborn- excused

Committee staff present:

Raney Gilliland Kansas Legislative Research  
Gordon Self, Revisor of Statutes  
Kristen Kellems, Revisor of Statutes  
Florence Deeter, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Christopher Tymeson, Chief Legal Counsel, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks  
Constantine Cotsoradis, Deputy Secretary, Kansas Department of Agriculture

Others attending:

See attached list.

The Chair opened the hearing of **HB 2829 - declaring a temporary season for taking antlerless deer.**

Christopher Tymeson, Chief Legal Counsel, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, spoke in opposition to the bill (Attachments 1 and 2). He stated that the bill violates the principle of professional wildlife management, relying instead on arbitrary statistics. He noted that the bill would reduce license revenues, create sporadic enforcement patterns, and have little long-term impact on deer population.

Steve Swaffar, Director of Natural Resources, Kansas Farm Bureau, provided written testimony, noting that the bill is incomplete in dealing with deer population and recommending that the topic be referred for an interim study (Attachment 3).

The hearing on **HB 2829** was closed.

Constantine Cotsoradis, Deputy Secretary, Kansas Department of Agriculture, said the Department, responding to issues raised by **HB 2625**, has prepared a resolution to address some of the concerns regarding IGUCAs (Intensive Groundwater Use Control Area). He commented that Walnut Creek Groundwater Management District has developed a commendable plan, and the Chief Engineer is available to present a report to the Committee. John Donley, Kansas Livestock Association, recommended developing a positive policy to address concerns about the bill. Mr. Cotsoradis and Mr. Donley, responding to questions, said that other organizations support their position. Mr. Cotsoradis said that the Division of Water Resources will have hydrological models available.

The Chair announced that the Committee will plan to work **HB 2625 - intensive groundwater use control areas, mandatory review and advisory committees** at the next meeting as well as **HB 2897 - Commodity Commission; assessment rates; voting process.**

Regarding **HB 2860 - registration of agriculture chemicals**, Representative Svaty made a motion, seconded by Representative Feuerborn, to amend the bill, striking the words ~~except that such fee shall not exceed \$130, or commencing July 1, 2002, and ending on June 30, 2010, such fee shall not exceed \$150 for each agriculture chemical registered and inserting *Such fee shall equal an amount multiplied by the number of years registered and shall not exceed \$150 per each agricultural chemical registered.*~~ The motion passed.

A motion was made by Representative Svaty to recommend **HB 2860** as favorable for passage as amended. Representative Feuerborn seconded. Discussion ensued. Representative Moxley made a substitute motion. Representative Flora seconded; motion and second was withdrawn. Returning to **HB 2860** for a vote, the motion passed.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee at 3:30 P.M. on February 25, 2008, in Room DSOB 783 of the Capitol.

The Chair opened **HB 2800** - **wildlife; youth hunt of a lifetime deer permits** for consideration.

Staff Raney Gilliland briefed the committee by stating the bill amends a section of the law regarding youth hunt of a lifetime deer permits awarded to organizations would not be required to pay for the awarded permit.

After some discussion, Representative Knox made a motion to table any consideration of the bill. Representative Svaty seconded. Motion passed to table HB 2800.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 26, 2008.