

Approved: 2-6-07

Date

## MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lana Gordon at 3:30 P.M. on February 1, 2007 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Don Hill- excused

Don Myers- excused

Robert Olson- excused

Committee staff present:

Kathie Sparks, Legislative Research Department

Hank Avila, Legislative Research Department

Jason Long, Revisor of Statutes Office

Ann Deitcher, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Kevin Willmott, Associate Professor of Film, KU

Peter Jasso, State Department of Commerce

A bill was introduced by Representative Flaharty and seconded by Representative Winn that would raise the minimum wage in Kansas to \$7.25 per hour. This bill would also tie future increases to the CPI. The motion passed on a voice vote.

The Chair spoke to the Committee of three bills concerning the Silver Haired Legislature. The first was in regard to the long-term care ombudsman, the second would be the use of tobacco settlement funds for health care and the third would use e-commerce taxes for health care for seniors.

The motion by Representative Gordon to accept these three bills to be introduced was seconded by Representative Hayzlett and passed on a voice vote.

The Chair introduced Professor Willmott who addressed the Committee regarding his appointment by Governor Sebelius to chair a Task Force concerning film in the state. (Attachment 1). He talked about his experiences of making movies in Kansas and possible economic benefits and tourism benefits to the State.

Questions and answers followed.

Peter Jasso answered questions of the Committee explaining the incentives offered by states to bring more film industry to Kansas. Copies of the Motion Picture Association of America, Inc. 2007 State-By-State Tax Incentives for the Film Industry was distributed. (Attachment 2).

Representative Huntington made a motion to adopt a bill that would name Little Blue Stem Grass as the official state grass of Kansas. Representative Swanson seconded the motion which passed on a voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 5, 2007.