

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dan Johnson at 3:30 p.m. on January 31, 2000, in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative Freeborn - excused

Committee staff present: Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department  
Gordon Self, Revisor of Statutes  
Kay Scarlett, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Ron Klataske, Executive Director, Audubon of Kansas  
George Teagarden, Livestock Commissioner, Kansas Animal Health Department  
Jamie Clover Adams, Secretary, Kansas Department of Agriculture  
Leslie Kaufman, Assistant Director, Public Policy Division, Kansas Farm Bureau  
Rich McKee, Executive Secretary, Feedlot Division, Kansas Livestock Association

Others attending: See attached list

Ron Klataske, Executive Director, Audubon of Kansas, requested introduction of a committee bill to repeal Sections 80-1201 through 80-1208 of the Kansas Statutes, leaving it to the discretion of landowners whether or not to eradicate prairie dogs on their land. (Attachment 1) On motion of Representative Faber, second by Representative Compton, the motion carried.

George Teagarden, Livestock Commissioner, Kansas Animal Health Department, requested introduction of a committee bill concerning disposition of animals from an animal shelter. On motion of Representative Larkin, second by Representative Flower, the motion carried.

Representative O'Brien moved to introduce three committee bills relating to deer control: 1) When a regular hunting license is purchased, a doe stamp can be purchased for an additional \$2.00; 2) When a deer is harvested, a tab could be pulled off the deer tag and mailed in to the Kansas Wildlife and Parks Department for a \$10 refund; and 3) When a traffic accident is reported on a state highway, the Kansas Wildlife and Parks Department must harvest all deer within one-half mile of the accident location. Seconded by Representative Larkin, the motion carried.

**Hearing on HCR 5050 - Concurrent Resolution urging Congress to pass legislation allowing state inspected meat to be shipped interstate; increasing the number of poultry slaughtered**

Chairman Johnson opened the hearing on **HCR 5050** and asked Raney Gilliland to brief the committee on the resolution. He explained that this resolution, recommended by the 1999 Interim Special Committee on Agriculture, urges Congress to allow state-inspected meat and meat products to be shipped interstate and, also, requests that the number of poultry that can be slaughtered at home and offered for sale to the consumer be raised from 1,000 to 5,000, annually.

Jamie Clover Adams, Secretary, Kansas Department of Agriculture, appeared in support of **HCR 5050**. She said that the Department has encouraged the Kansas Congressional delegation and USDA Secretary Glickman to enact legislation permitting interstate shipment of state-inspected meat and poultry products and reported that USDA has introduced S. 1988 which would permit interstate shipment of state-inspected products.

The Secretary expressed concern with the section of the resolution to increase the exemption from 1,000 to 5,000 on the number of poultry that can be slaughtered at home annually and offered for sale to the consumer.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

The resolution states that the number needs to be increased to meet current consumer demand. She reported that the Department has not received any consumer requests for an increase in the exemption, but has received requests from producers who would like to slaughter more poultry without being under inspection. It was noted that both the Kansas and Federal poultry exemption is 1,000 per year. She cautioned against changing the state meat and poultry inspection program status from being equal to the federal inspection program. From a food safety standpoint, the Secretary said the Department cannot support raising the exemption on the number of uninspected poultry that can be offered for sale to the consumers of our state. (Attachment 2)

Leslie Kaufman, Assistant Director, Public Policy Division, Kansas Farm Bureau, expressed Kansas Farm Bureau's support for **HCR 5050**. She reported that both Kansas Farm Bureau and American Farm Bureau Policy support the interstate shipment of meat inspected under a state program that is equal to the federal program and approved by USDA. Kansas Farm Bureau has no policy statement on increasing the number of poultry that can be slaughtered at home and offered for sale to the consumer. (Attachment 3)

Rich McKee, Executive Secretary, Feedlot Division, Kansas Livestock Association, testified in support of **HCR 5050** to allow state inspected meat and meat products to be shipped interstate. The Kansas Livestock Association is not familiar with the issue of slaughtering poultry at home for sale to the consumer and took no position. (Attachment 4)

Chairman Johnson closed the hearing on **HCR 5050**.

It was the recommendation of the 1999 Interim Special Committee on Agriculture to direct an additional \$1.3 million in Economic Development Initiatives Fund money to be used for enhancement of the programs of the Agriculture Products Development Division in the Kansas Department of Commerce and Housing. Raney Gilliland and Rae Anne Davis of the Legislative Research Department reported that due to an oversight in the Governor's FY 2001 Budget, \$829,018 in EDIF money is unappropriated and could possibly be made available to the Agriculture Products Development Division. (Attachment 5) The Appropriation Subcommittee working on the Kansas Department of Commerce and Housing budget is scheduled to meet on Wednesday of this week. On behalf of the House Agriculture Committee, Chairman Johnson will appear before the subcommittee and request that this money be directed to the Agriculture Products Development Division. Committee members were encouraged to attend.

The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for February 2, 2000.