

MINUTES OF THE SENATE ELECTIONS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Senator Janice Hardenburger at 1:30 p.m. on March 9, 2000, in Room 245-N of the Capitol.

All members were present:

Committee staff present: Dennis Hodgins, Legislative Research Department
Mike Heim, Legislative Research Department
Ken Wilke, Revisor of Statutes
Graceanna Wood, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Representative Larry Campbell
Representative Kent Glasscock (written testimony only)
Janet Stubbs, Exec. Officers, Kansas Building Industry Assn.
Joe Knopp, Attorney, Manhattan

Others attending: See attached list

Chairman Hardenburger opened discussion on **SB 535 concerning extension districts, and repealing the existing section**. She explained several options to the Committee to consider prior to acting on the bill. (Attachment #1)

The Committee discussed having the County Commissioners appoint the members of the extension council, instead of having elections.

Chairman Hardenburger said the Commission only would be appointing seven members who would serve as the council. The council would be responsible for appointing the program development committee. If the County Commission appointed a broad representation in the seven member board, then the seven member board should be able to bring in new members. People who are interested in the extension and its goals and objectives.

Senator Huelskamp said in his county they did not want to change the present system, and would like it to be maintained as the current law.

Staff informed the Committee that if there is an election process in place then there would have to be a transition when the process starts. Having the members appointed by the County Commissioners there would need to be a transition set up to have a cut off and switch over to the new system. The extension council has 24 members. If this is cut down to seven, this would need to have a transition also.

Chairman Hardenburger said they would want to follow this pattern of having the seven appointed and then the seven serve as an extension council or executive board and whereupon they would appoint the remaining people for the program development committee.

Senator Gooch moved that the process of appointing the extension council members by the County Commissioners would replace the language in the bill that relate to elected by the public, seconded by Senator Lawrence. Motion carried.

Senator Huelskamp voted no.

Senator Becker moved to pass out the bill favorably as amended, seconded by Senator Lawrence.

Senator Huelskamp requested substitute amendment to retain the language on Page 1, Lines 18 through 20.

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Richard Wootton, Associate Director for Extension in K-State Research and Extension Department, told the Committee that the an advisory council prepared the proposal together with the Secretary of State, and he advised them not to focus on a particular vocabulary such as community development, that would be somewhat confining. In many counties the Research and Extension Department are not aggressively doing community work, other than trying to maintain a significant agricultural base in the community, and some of the terms have become cumbersome.

Senator Huelskamp moved a substitution motion to retain the language struck out on page 1 lines 18 to 20 of the bill, seconded by Senator Lawrence.

The Committee discussed, that by removing the language, it would possibly weaken the program, as every county is different.

Substitute Motion carried.

Motion to pass the bill out favorably as amended carried.

Senator Huelskamp voted no.

Chairman Hardenburger opened hearings on **HB 2646 concerning cities and counties, relating to planning and zoning and repealing the existing sections.**

Staff informed the Committee that the bill designated who was considered in the signing of protest petitions in zoning changes. If the property owner requested the zoning change or agreed to zoning change, it then would be excluded from the area being zoned and triggered a super majority for adopting the change.

Chairman Hardenburger said if there was a block square being re-zoned and those persons in that block fought the re-zoning, then those around the perimeter had to be notified within a certain distance and they would be allowed to petition against the re-zoning, but those in the block would not be allowed to be on that petition.

Representative Larry L. Campbell, gave testimony in favor of **HB 2646**, advising the Committee that the bill would clarify some confusion that has arisen in the interpretation of K.S.A. 12-757 concerning the calculation of the protest area in a re-zoning protest petition. (Attachment #2)

Written testimony from Representative Glasscock was presented to the Committee regarding **HB 2646**. It said Kansas laws has protected property owners by giving them the right to protest when a piece of land next to theirs was proposed for re-zoning. This law stated that surrounding property owners could submit a protest petition to force a super majority vote of the governing body approving the zoning change. (Attachment #3)

Janet Stubbs, Executive Officer of the Kansas Building Industry Association introduced to the Committee Joe Knopp, Attorney, from Manhattan, who presented testimony, opposing the bill. (Attachment #4)

Chairman Hardenburger closed the hearing on **HB 2646**.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m. Next meeting is scheduled for March 13, 2000.

Unless specifically noted, the individual remarks recorded herein have not been transcribed verbatim. Individual remarks as reported herein have not been submitted to the individuals appearing before the committee for editing or corrections.

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