

MINUTES OF THE ETHICS AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE:

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Representative Tony Powell at 3:30 p.m. on January 29, 2001 in Room 521-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:      Rep. Ray, Excused  
    Rep. Welshimer, Excused  
    Rep. Findley, Excused

Committee staff present:                      Theresa Kiernan, Revisor  
    Dennis Hodgins, Research  
    Shirley Weideman, Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Representative David Huff

Others attending: See attached list.

Chair Tony Powell opened the hearing on **HB 2129** - Mileage and other allowances for official travel of certain advisory committees.

Representative Huff was recognized as a proponent of the bill. He gave the example of a friend who was appointed to a volunteer advisory committee for the state of Kansas. The friend had to pay for his own expense of getting to and from Topeka. He said that the bill would give persons who donate their time to serve on advisory boards and state committees, the opportunity to receive reimbursement for mileage, tolls and parking expenses. They can turn down the expenses if they wish. This bill does not include food or lodging expenses. The bill would have a fiscal effect but it would be no more than the agency could absorb in its's budget. (attachment #1) He stood for questions.

Representative Powers asked whether the expenses would cover all travel expenses under "other allowances" for official travel in accordance with K.S.A. 76-3203 (not 3202). Theresa Kiernan, Revisor, replied that it would cover mileage, parking charges, turnpike and bridge tolls only.

Chair Powell asked if the committees are informal advisory ones that the state agency creates or are they statutory? Representative Huff indicated that they are ones that the Governor appoints and not statutory. Dennis Hodges, Research Department, said this bill would not cover statutory-created committees.

There being no further questions, Chair Powell thanked Representative Huff for his testimony.

Chair Powell closed the hearing on **HB 2129**. He also announced to the committee that the committee would be working this bill **HB 2129** on Wednesday, January 31.

The committee was reminded by Chair Powell that he is working on revisions of last year's lobbying laws and would be interested in hearing individual member's comments on those laws.

There being no further business, Chair Powell adjourned the committee at 3:45 p.m. Next meeting will be January 31, 2001 at 3:30 p.m.