

MINUTES OF THE SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Derek Schmidt at 8:30 a.m. on March 27, 2002 in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

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

Conferees appearing before the committee:
Randy Allen, Executive Director, Kansas Association of Counties

Others attending: See attached list:

HB 2602 - - County discount program to control noxious weeds

Senator Umbarger distributed a “balloon” which amended **HB 2602** by restoring current permissive language relating to establishment of a program to provide chemical materials used in the control and eradication of noxious weeds to landowners through chemical dealers on a discount basis. The proposed amendment further provides a petition provision and provides for a period of time in which to establish such a program if it is the will of the people. Randy Allen, Executive Director, Kansas Association of Counties, stated the time requirement of “within eighteen months” is to allow adequate time within the county budgeting process to establish a certificate discount program.

Senator Umbarger moved, seconded by Senator Downey that HB 2602 be amended as outlined in the “balloon” (Attachment 1). The voice vote was in favor of the motion

Senator Umbarger moved, seconded by Senator Downey that HB 2602 be recommended favorably for passage as amended. The voice vote was in favor of the motion.

SB 438 - - Powers, duties and responsibilities of secretary of agriculture related to fees and penalties.

Senator Taddiken offered an amendment containing the same amendments offered by Senator Umbarger on March 26, but adds a “sunset” provisions. The Committee discussed the lack of funding for the Agriculture Department through the general fund and stated its concerns of relying on fees paid by the agriculture segment of our citizens, particularly during the present agriculture economy.

Senator Taddiken moved, seconded by Senator Umbarger, that SB 438 be amended as reflected in the “balloon” (Attachment 2) and further by inserting the following: “New Section 1. The provisions of this act which serve to establish fees, or which amend or increase fees in existence at the time of the enactment of this act, shall be rescinded and sunset July 1, 2005. Upon sunset the fees in existence at the time of enactment shall revert to the prior level and those established by this act shall cease.” The motion passed with a vote of “yes - 4; no - 4”, the Chair voting in the affirmative.

Senator Umbarger moved, seconded by Senator Taddiken, the SB 438 be recommended favorably for passage as amended. The vote by a show of hands was “yes - 4; no - 4”, the Chair voting in the affirmative. The motion passed. Senators Huelskamp, Tyson and Downey asked to be recorded as voting “no”.

SCR 1615 - - Urging Congress to enact country of origin labeling

Mr. Harold Walker submitted written testimony in support of **SCR 1615**, and submitted additional language to be included in the resolution. (Attachment 3)

Senator Huelskamp moved, seconded by Senator Tyson, that SCR 1615 be amended on Line

CONTINUATION SHEET

17 by striking the word “may” and inserting in lieu thereof the word “shall”; on Line 38 by striking the word “county” and inserting the word “country”; and on line 40 by striking the word “President” and inserting the words “Majority Leader”. The voice vote was in support of the motion.

Senator Huelskamp moved, seconded by Senator Tyson, that SCR 1615 as amended be recommended favorably for adoption. The voice vote was in favor of the motion.

Upon motion of Senator Downey, seconded by Senator Tyson, the Minutes of March 12 and March 13, were unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

No further meetings are scheduled.