

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dan Johnson at 3:30 p.m. on February 12, 2003, in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

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

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Dr. Marc Johnson, Director of K-State Research and Extension and Dean, College of Agriculture, Kansas State University
Dr. Charles Rice, Soil Microbiologist, Department of Agronomy, Kansas State University
Dennis Metz, member, Kansas Dairy Marketing Advisory Board

Others attending: See attached list

Minutes of the February 5 meeting were distributed. Members were asked to notify the committee secretary of any corrections or additions prior to 5:00 p.m. February 14, or the minutes will be considered approved as presented.

Discussion and action on HCR 5009 - Concurrent Resolution urging the President and Congress to remove trade, financial and travel restrictions to Cuba.

Representative Thimesch moved to amend HCR 5009 on page 1, lines 40 and 41, by inserting after the word "restrictions" the phrase "with the exception of arms sales," and after the word "Cuba" the language "while continuing to encourage Cuba to fully recognize the fundamental rights of its citizens." (Attachment 1) The motion was seconded by Representative Freeborn. There was discussion concerning human rights and fundamental rights. Representative Thimesch reported that of the eleven states working on resolutions, there is no mention of human rights or fundamental rights. After further discussion, the motion carried.

Representative Faber moved to amend HCR 5009 as proposed by Representative Mario Goico to include language addressing the human rights situation in Cuba. (Attachment 2) The motion was seconded by Representative Craft. After much discussion, the motion failed. Representatives Dahl and Faber asked to be recorded as voting yes on this amendment.

Representative Thimesch moved to recommend HCR 5009, as amended, favorable for adoption. Seconded by Representative Feuerborn, the motion carried.

Dr. Marc Johnson, Director of K-State Research and Extension and Dean, College of Agriculture, Kansas

CONTINUATION SHEET

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State University, presented their annual report to the House Agriculture Committee focusing on some of the newer initiatives of K-State Research and Extension. He discussed the impact of K-State Research and Extension in the categories of bio-security, economic development, drought assistance, agricultural management, environmental management, and community health. A copy of the *Kansas Center for Sustainable Agriculture and Alternative Crops 2002 Accomplishments* was included with his testimony. (Attachment 3)

Dr. Charles Rice, Soil Microbiologist, Department of Agronomy, Kansas State University, discussed carbon sequestration through management of Kansas' natural resources. Research is being done to test the effect of tillage, various crop rotations, soil conservation practices, and several grazing land management practices on soil carbon levels. Kansas State University and nine other universities recently formed the Consortium for Agricultural Soils Mitigation of Greenhouse Gasses (CASMGs) to provide the science and technology necessary to help our nation realize the benefit of carbon sequestration. (Attachment4)

Dennis Metz, member, Kansas Dairy Marketing Advisory Board, presented their annual report to the House Agriculture Committee. He discussed the many changes in the dairy industry in Kansas, Regional Dairy Compacts, and milk prices. The Kansas Dairy Marketing Advisory Board asks that the Kansas Legislature continue to monitor the impact of volatile prices on the Kansas dairy industry. (Attachment 5)

A memorandum from Greg Foley, Acting Secretary, Kansas Department of Agriculture, was distributed in response to questions raised at the February 5 meeting concerning the meat and poultry inspection program. (Attachment 6)

The meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for February 17, 2003.