

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman William Mason at 1:30 p.m. on January 20, 2004 in Room 313-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative John Edmonds- excused

Committee staff present:

Russell Mills Legislative Research Department  
Mary Torrence, Revisor of Statutes Office  
Dennis Hodgins, Legislative Research Department  
Rose Marie Glatt, Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Tom Groneman, Executive Director, Alcoholic Beverage Control  
Tracy T Diel, Executive Director, Racing and Gaming Commission  
John McElroy, Executive Director, State Gaming Agency

Others attending:

See Attached List.

The Chairman welcomed the Committee to the first 2004 Federal and State Affairs meeting and introduced Representatives Jan Scoggins-Waite and Harold Lane, new Representatives to the Legislature. Introductions were made and Dennis Hodgins was welcomed as the newest staff member from Legislative Research.

Without objection, a bill was introduced by Representative Brunk regarding the unborn victims of violence act. This is the same bill (HB 2797) that was introduced in the 2002 legislative session.

Tom Groneman, Executive Director of Alcoholic Beverage Control, presented an overview of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Division (Attachment 1). He introduced Mike Padilla the new Chief Enforcement Officer. The Division administers and enforces the liquor laws in Kansas to ensure compliance and to maintain a level playing field among all licensees. There are three organizational units: licensing, administration, and enforcement.

Tracy T. Diel, Executive Director, Kansas Racing and Gaming Commission stated that the Commission had regulatory jurisdiction over the parimutuel racing industry in Kansas. He provided an overview of their responsibilities (Attachment 2). In response to a question regarding the health and safety of racing animals he stated that Kansas had fairly strict regulations and that abuse of racing animals is minimal to non-existent in the state.

John E. McElroy, Executive Director, Kansas State Gaming Agency, briefed the Committee on the responsibilities of the Agency (Attachment 3). The Agency is entirely funded by contributions from the four recognized Kansas tribes with a FY 2004 budget of \$1,562,688. In response to questions, he explained how assessments are divided among the tribes, the rationale behind a 15% budget increase over five years, state share of gambling revenue and duties of a casino enforcement agent.

Dennis Hodgins reviewed the interim report from the Joint Committee on State-Tribal Relations (Attachment 4). The following recommendations were made:

- The House Committee on Federal and State Affairs should continue to work 2003 House Sub. for SB 9 regarding the tribal law enforcement issue.
- The Joint Committee sent a letter to the Kansas Congressional Delegation seeking support for a Congressional Inquiry or GAO Audit regarding actions of the Department of Interior that resulted in a gaming casino in downtown Kansas City, KS.
- Issues related to the South Lawrence Trafficway controversy and status of tribal-related litigation would continue to be monitored.