

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ELECTIONS AND GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mike Burgess at 3:30 P.M. on February 5, 2008 in Room 784 of the DSOB.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Martha Dorsey, Legislative Research Department
Cindy Lash, Legislative Research Department
Mike Heim, Revisor of Statutes Office
Dianne Rosell, Assistant Revisor of Statutes
Piper Cameron, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Carol Williams, Executive Director fo Governmental Ethics Commission
Representative Ann Mah

Others attending:

See attached list.

The Chairman called for bill introductions:

No new bill introductions at this time.

HB 2408- Campaign finance; certain reporting requirements.

Carol Williams, Governmental Ethics Commission, stood in support of **HB 2408**. She explained that this bill has been a recommendation made by the Governmental Ethics Commission for four years in its Annual Report and Recommendations. To provide a better understanding of the dollars being spent to support or oppose Kansas candidates, the Commission believes that political action and party committees should be required to provide more detailed information concerning their efforts to influence the campaigns in Kansas. (See Attachment 1).

HB 2697- Campaign finance; reporting of name of employer of certain individual contributions

Carol Williams, Governmental Ethics Commission, stood in support of **HB 2697**. She stated that political and action parties would be required to report the name and address of each candidate, for state or local office that either receives an in-kind contribution or is identified in an independent expenditure, made by the committee which expressly advocates for or against the named candidate. (See Attachment 2).

SB 196- Elections; establishing requirements for reporting of independent expenditures and certain campaign contributions

Carol Williams, Governmental Ethics Commission, supported **SB 196**. She expressed her recommendation that last minute contributions received by candidates and last minute independent expenditures made by political cation committees and party committees be disclosed prior to an election. In addition, current law does not require a PAC or party committee to report any independent expenditure it makes to expressly advocate the election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate during the last eleven days before an election until well after the election. **SB 196**, would require treasurers for state and local candidates to file a report of any contribution received by the campaign in the amount of \$300 or more received during the time period commencing 11 days before primary or general election ending at midnight on the Thursday preceding the date of election. (See Attachment 3).

Being no other conferees, the Chairman closed the public hearing. The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m. The next meeting is February 6, 2006

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Elections and Governmental Organization Committee at 3:30 P.M. on February 5, 2008 in Room 784 of the DSOB.