

MINUTES OF THE SENATE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dwayne Umbarger at 10:30 A.M. on March 25, 2008, in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator Donald Betts, Jr. - excused

Committee staff present:

Jill Wolters, Senior Assistant, Revisor of Statutes
Kristen Clarke Kellems, Assistant Revisor of Statutes
Jason Thompson, Assistant Revisor of Statutes
Audrey Dunkel, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Julian Efird, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Cody Gorges, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Aaron Klaassen, Kansas Legislative Research
J. G. Scott, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Jarod Waltner, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Melinda Gaul, Chief of Staff, Senate Ways & Means
Mary Shaw, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Representative Ann Mah
Senator Anthony Hensley
Brigadier General Ed Gerhardt, Retired, President, Board of Directors, Museum of the Kansas National Guard
Colonel Robert Dalton, Executive Director, 35th Division Association
Debra Prideaux, Exec. Director, Alumni and Governmental Relations, Fort Hays State University

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairman Umbarger opened the public hearing on:

SB 680–Kansas lottery; veterans benefit game

Staff briefed the committee on the bill.,

The Chairman welcomed the following conferees:

Representative Ann Mah testified in support of **SB 680** (Attachment 1). Representative Mah mentioned that this bill would expand the Veterans benefit lottery game to help fund an addition to the Museum of the Kansas National Guard at Forbes Field. The bill sets out a plan whereby the Veterans benefit ticket is expanded from its current 7-month run to a year-round ticket.

Senator Anthony Hensley spoke in support of **SB 680** (no written testimony was submitted). Senator Hensley explained that this is a two year program for a year-round lottery ticket for the Veterans benefit lottery game in place. He noted that it makes sense to have the ticket year round and it is a creative partnership.

Brigadier General Ed Gerhardt, Retired, President of the Board of Directors of the Museum of the Kansas National Guard, testified in support of **SB 680** (Attachment 2). General Gerhardt explained that the Museum of the Kansas National Guard, Forbes Field, has been open for over 11 years. Its mission is to preserve and present the militia heritage in Kansas. It was built with contributions, fundraisers and volunteer labor. It is an approved U. S. Army Museum and as such is entitled to Federal funds for utilities, maintenance and exhibits; however, Federal funds are not available for construction. Over \$220,000 has been raised by the Museum Board and the 35th Division Association. He noted that they are asking for help from the Lottery Veterans benefits game for a couple of years.

Colonel Robert Dalton, Retired, spoke in support of **SB 680** (Attachment 3). Colonel Dalton served in the

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35th Division which is still rooted in Kansas today. He detailed information about the 35th Division both in his written testimony and verbally. Colonel Dalton noted that **SB 680** will go a long way in making recognition of the 35th Division possible.

The Chairman closed the public hearing on **SB 680**.

The Chairman opened the public hearing on:

HB 2858--Fort Hays state university foundation, authorized investing agent

Staff briefed the committee on the bill.

Debra Prideaux, Executive Director, Alumni and Governmental Relations, Fort Hays State University, testified in support of **HB 2858** (Attachment 4). Ms. Prideaux explained that **HB 2858** recognizes the name change of the Fort Hays Kansas State University Endowment Association to the Fort Hays State University Foundation.

The Chairman closed the hearing on **HB 2858**.

Chairman Umbarger acknowledged Jason Thompson, Assistant Revisor of Statutes, who provided a staff briefing on the Methamphetamine Precursor Recorder Act (Attachment 5) (**SB 503**). The Committee considered:

SB 503--Methamphetamine precursor recording act

Senator V. Schmidt moved, with a second by Senator Emler, to remove the contents of **HB 2423** and amend the provisions of **SB 503**, **SB 491** and **SB 549** into **Senate Substitute for HB 2423** and recommend Senate **Substitute for HB 2423** favorable for passage. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

The meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m. The next meeting was scheduled for March 26, 2008.