

MINUTES OF THE SENATE FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Senator Lana Oleen at 11:00 a.m. on March 2 , 2000 in Room 245-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Senator Laurie Bleeker

Committee staff present: Mary Galligan, Legislative Research Department
Russell Mills, Legislative Research Department
Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes
Judy Glasgow, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Colonel Jonathan Small
David Hanson

Others attending: See Attached Sheet

Senator Oleen introduced Wayne Walker, Anthony Middle School, Manhattan, LaDonna Marie Marcum, Domanique Brown and Carmetta Roberts from Junction City Middle School, who are serving as her pages for the day.

Senator Biggs shared a picture which was presented to him during the tour of Fort Leavenworth on March 1 entitled "It's Up To Us Now" Battle of Las Guasimas, Santiago de Cuba, depicting the buffalo soldiers and Teddy Roosevelt and the Rough Riders. Chairman Oleen stated that the picture would be hung in the committee meeting room for all to enjoy. She thanked Senator Biggs for agreeing to have it displayed.

Chairman Oleen opened the confirmation hearing of Colonel Jonathan Small, for appointment of Brigadier General, Kansas Army National Guard. (Attachment 1) Colonel Small addressed the committee stating that he was born and raised in Kingman, Kansas; graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree from Kansas State University and his Juris Doctorate degree from Washburn University. (Attachment 2) Colonel Small gave the committee a summary of his legal practice since 1973 and his military career over the last 30 years. Colonel Small stated the Kansas National Guard have provided a well-trained and highly dedicated organization that believes in the United States Army's seven core values: loyalty, duty, respect, selfless-service, honor, integrity and personal courage. Colonel Small stated that he is proud of the value that the Kansas National Guard has added to the state of Kansas.

In response to a question from committee, Colonel Small stated that one of the difficulties that the Kansas National Guard will have over the next few years is the ability to recruit the necessary personnel to meet the demands of national deployments. He stated that part of this problem is because of the booming economy and the low unemployment rate. Chairman Oleen ask Colonel Small to explain the college scholarship program that is presently before the legislature for national guard officers. Colonel Small stated that the scholarship would help attract more highly qualified persons.

Senator Becker moved to recommend that Colonel Small be appointed to Brigadier General with the Kansas Army National Guard and report the confirmation favorably to the full Senate. Senator Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Chairman Oleen opened the confirmation hearing of David Hanson to the Kansas Human Rights Commission. (Attachment 30). David Hanson stated that his appointment to the Kansas Human Rights Commission was to complete the term of Kristin Blomquist who had moved from the state of Kansas and resigned her position. Mr. Hanson stated he was a native of Concordia, Kansas and had attended Kansas State University and Washburn University School of Law. Mr. Hanson gave the committee a brief history of his personnel and professional activities. Mr. Hanson stated that he has served on various boards and agencies including Sheltered Living; helped to set the tribal courts for Sac and Fox and he stated that he welcomed the opportunity to serve on the Kansas Human Rights Commission. Mr. Hanson stated that he agrees with the commissions' philosophy and could bring his experience in administrative law involving regulatory issues to the commission and his public service to Kansas Human Rights Commission.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS, Room 245-N Statehouse, at 11:00 a.m. on March 2, 2000.

Chairman Oleen recognized William Minner, Executive Director of the Kansas Human Rights Commission and ask him to introduce the other members of the Commission. Mr. Minner noted that Robert Wesley, Chairman of the Kansas Human Rights Commission and James Butler at large representative, were in attendance.

Chairman Oleen stated that the committee would take action on the confirmation. Senator Harrington moved to advance the confirmation of David Hanson as a member of the Kansas Human Rights Commission to the full senate; Senator Biggs seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Chairman Oleen ask that the committee return to **SB 492 -State gaming agency, relating to financing operations** and ask that Mr. Tracy Diel briefly review the 6 provisions being proposed. Senator Gooch ask Mr. Diel how significant the change would be from KBI background checks to internal background checks of enforcement officers. Mr. Diel stated that this would allow background checks to be completed in a more timely manner and would be similar to the racing commission doing their own background checks.

Senator Harrington moved to report the bill favorably to the entire senate. Senator Vratil seconded the motion. Senator Oleen ask for discussion on provision 5 which would change the penalty from a high misdemeanor to a low felony. Tracy Diel reported that after review of the provisions the Gaming Commission would like to keep the current language in this section. Senator Biggs made a substitute motion to restore original language in provision 5; Senator Harrington seconded the substitute motion. The motion passed.

Senator Harrington moved to report SB 492 favorably to the full Senate. Senator Vratil seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for March 7, 2000 at 11:00 a.m.