

## MINUTES OF THE HOUSE WILDLIFE, PARKS AND TOURISM COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Don Myers at 3:30 P.M. on March 9, 2005 in Room 241-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Margaret Long- excused  
Representative L. Candy Ruff- excused  
Representative Clark Shultz- excused  
Representative Shari Weber- excused

Committee staff present:

Hank Avila, Kansas Legislative Research  
Dennis Hodgins, Kansas Legislative Research  
Lisa Montgomery, Revisor of Statutes Office  
Betty Caruthers, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Chris Tymeson, Chief Legal Council, Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks  
Dan Ward, Executive Director, Kansas Wildlife Federation

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairman Myers opened hearings on **SB 59 - Creates the Wildlife Violator Compact.**

Chairman Myers recognized Revisor, Lisa Montgomery to give a summary of the bill. Lisa reminded the Committee that with compacts they cannot make any changes to the compact itself. With regards to **SB 59** Section I is the compact so the Committee cannot amend that section. Sections II thru VII cover the gaps between Compacts and Statutes. This bill allows other states to recognize wildlife violations from our state as well as our state recognizing those from other states.

Chairman Myers recognized Chris Tymeson to testify as a proponent for the bill. (Attachment 1) At the present time there are 19 states which are members of the Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact. Passage of this legislation will:

1. Prohibit people convicted of serious wildlife violations in other compact member states from acquiring licenses or permits in Kansas.
2. Provide a means for law enforcement officers to carry out their duties without unduly detaining people who have committed less serious violations.

Chairman Myers recognized Dan Ward to testify as a proponent for **SB 59.** (Attachment 2) Mr. Ward believes that this bill will give our law enforcement the tools it needs to do its job more effectively and aid in setting up efficient interstate cooperation between wildlife agencies. He reported that this bill was being supported not only by the Kansas Wildlife Federation but also by the Kansas Outfitters Association, the Kansas Bow Hunters Association, the Rifle Hunters Association, and the Audubon Society. Mr. Ward sees this as a mechanism to begin tracking the interstate nature of illegal hunting.

Chairman Myers asked if there were other proponents or any opponents to speak to the bill. There were none therefore the hearings on **SB 59** were closed.

Chairman Myers requested a motion on the Committee Minutes. Moved by Representative Ohara, seconded by Representative Swenson for approval of Minutes of the House Committee on Wildlife, Parks and Tourism held on March 7, 2005.

Motion carried.

Chairman Myers adjourned the Committee at 4:15. Next meeting scheduled for Monday, March 14.