

MINUTES OF THE SENATE ELECTIONS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Barbara P. Allen at 1:30 p.m. on February 8, 2001 in Room 245-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present: Mike Heim, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Dennis Hodgins, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Ken Wilke, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Nancy Kirkwood, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Natalie Haag, Chief Legal Counsel, Director of Governmental Affairs
Brad Bryant, Deputy Assistant, Secretary of State

Others attending: See attached list.

Hearing on: SB 256 - elections, requiring mandatory recount under specified conditions

Ken Wilke, Office of the Revisor of Statutes, gave a brief overview of **SB 256**. He stated if total votes cast for a statewide office, president or vice president of the United States, US Congressman or US Senator have a difference of ½ of 1% or less then there is an automatic recount. He noted a technical error on “page 1 line 21 the statute; KSA25-3104 should read KSA 25-3109”.

Natalie Haag, Chief Legal Counsel, Director of governmental Affairs, testified in support of **SB 256** (Attachment 1).

There being no others wishing to testify on **SB 256** the hearing was closed.

Hearing on: SB 126 - recount procedure for offices elected on statewide basis

Dennis Hodgins, Kansas Legislative Research Department, gave a briefing on **SB 126**.

Brad Bryant, Deputy Assistant Security of State, testified in support of **SB 126**. He summarized the Secretary of State’s approach to **SB 126** (Attachment 2).

Natalie Haag, Chief Legal Counsel, Director of Governmental Affairs, is also supportive of **SB 126**.

There being no others wishing to testify on **SB 126** the hearing was closed.

Ken Wilke, Office of the Revisor of Statutes, provided general information to the committee regarding two bills concerning recounts in the House: **HB 2214** appears to be a version of **SB 126** and **HB 2260** a version of **SB 256**.

Chairperson Allen requested that the Secretary of State’s office furnish a list illustrating how many races this recount recommendation in **SB 256** apply to in the last five years.

The committee was handed an answer from the Secretary of State’s office in regard to the question Senator Clark had on **SB 47** during the hearing on January 24, 2001 (Attachment 3).

The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 13, 2001.