

MINUTES OF THE SENATE FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pete Brungardt at 10:30 a.m. on March 15, 2004 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator Donald Betts- excused  
Senator Pete Brungardt- excused

Committee staff present:

Russell Mills, Legislative Research  
Dennis Hodgins, Legislative Research  
Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes' Office  
John Beverlin, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Representative Candy Ruff  
Suzanna Hupp  
Senator Phillip Journey  
Scott Hatstrup, Kansas Sportsmen's Alliance  
Paul Degener  
Gene Wahl  
Robert Curtis, Kansas Sportsmen's Alliance  
Keith Wood, NRA

Others attending:

See Attached List.

Vice Chairperson Lyon called the meeting to order. He informed the committee that Chairperson Brungardt would be unable to attend the meeting. He let the committee know there were issues with **Sub HB 2713, Regulation of certain sports**, that needed to be clarified. Vice Chairperson Lyon asked Theresa Kiernan to explain the problems.

Ms. Kiernan explained that the committee report would be difficult to draft, the way it was done. She also explained that there was language missing concerning KBI background checks. She asked the committee to reconsider its action and allow a substitute bill.

Senator Clark made a motion for the committee to reconsider its action on Sub HB 2713. The motion was seconded by Senator Teichman. The committee decided to reconsider its action on Sub HB 2713.

Senator Vratil made a motion to direct the revisor to draft a substitute bill with all of the recommended clean-up amendments and then the committee recommend the substitute bill favorable for passage as amended. The motion was seconded by Senator Teichman. The motion to amend and then recommend favorable for passage as amended, a substitute for Sub HB 2713 passed.

Vice Chairperson Lyon turned the committee's attention to **HB 2798, Personal and family protection act; licensing to carry concealed firearms**. He welcomed Representative Candy Ruff to the podium.

Representative Ruff started the hearing with the video, "Guns are Bad," by the news program 20/20. She then presented testimony to the committee (Attachment 1).

Vice Chairperson Lyon thanked Representative Ruff and welcomed Suzanna Hupp, a Representative in the Texas Legislature to the podium.

Ms. Hupp shared her story and experiences with the committee. She expressed her support for the right to carry concealed firearms.

Vice Chairperson Lyon thanked Ms. Hupp and welcomed Senator Phillip Journey to the podium.

Senator Journey presented testimony in favor of **HB 2798** (Attachment 2).

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE at 10:30 a.m. on March 15, 2004 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

Vice Chairperson Lyon thanked Senator Journey and welcomed Scott Hatstrup to the podium.

Mr. Hatstrup presented testimony in favor of **HB 2798** (Attachment 3).

Vice Chairperson Lyon thanked Mr. Hatstrup and welcomed Paul Degener to the podium.

Mr. Degener presented testimony in favor of **HB 2798** (Attachment 4).

Vice Chairperson Lyon thanked Mr. Degener and welcomed Gene Wahl to the podium.

Mr. Wahl presented testimony in favor of **HB 2798** (Attachment 5).

Vice Chairperson Lyon thanked Mr. Wahl and welcomed Robert Curtis to the podium.

Mr. Curtis presented testimony in favor of **HB 2798** (Attachment 6).

Vice Chairperson Lyon thanked Mr. Curtis and welcomed Keith Wood to the podium.

Mr. Wood presented testimony in favor of **HB 2798** (Attachment 7) and (Attachment 8).

Vice Chairperson Lyon thanked Mr. Wood and asked the committee for questions.

Senator Barnett asked Ms. Hupp if she would be open to carrying a concealed taser gun. He also wanted to know whether the weapon would have helped in her situation.

Ms. Hupp stated that she felt like any time you have to reduce the distance between the victim and the attacker, you run a chance for greater risk to the victim.

Senator Barnett stated the range for a taser is 15 feet. He then asked Representative Ruff if there was time in training spent with how to react with a gun.

Representative Ruff explained that time was spent with how to react, when it is proper to react, and the consequences. She further explained that there was also training on how to handle and store the weapon.

Senator O' Connor asked Mr. Hatstrup to explain the Vermont law to the committee.

Mr. Hatstrup explained to the committee that Vermont allows an individual to carry a firearm in any manner as long as it is not for an unlawful purpose. He further explained that they do not require a permit.

Vice Chairperson Lyon asked the committee for additional questions. None were asked. He pointed out to the committee that they had written testimony from Linda Morgan of the Department of Public Safety at Garden City Community College (Attachment 9), Ray Morgan, Sheriff in Kearny County, Kansas (Attachment 10) and from Paula Radcliff (Attachment 10).

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for March 16, 2004 at 10:30 a.m. in room 231-N.