

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steve Huebert at 3:30 p.m. on March 18, 2009, in Room 446-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Mike Peterson- excused

Representative Scott Schwab- excused

Committee staff present:

Ken Wilke, Office of the Revisor of Statutes

Martha Dorsey, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Jill Shelley, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Florence Deeter, Committee Assistant

Others attending:

See attached list.

The Chairman noted that distribution of requested information was provided by Carol Williams from the Governmental Ethics Commission (Attachment 1).

The Chairman called for consideration and discussion of **SB 55 - Concerning ballots by uniformed and overseas citizens and federal services voters.**

Ken Wilke, Office of the Revisor of Statutes, reviewed **SB 55** for the members, saying the bill allows military personnel to receive ballots which include voting for local questions, state constitutional amendments, and party precinct committee positions. He said included in the bill is a change in the method of transporting campaign finance reports.

As a point of privilege, the Chairman requested returning the bill to the original language and eliminating all language inserted after Section 1. Representative Brunk made a motion to return **SB 55** to the original language. Representative Horst seconded the motion. The motion passed. Representative Brunk made a motion to report **SB 55** with the original language favorably for passage. Representative O'Brien seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The Chairman called for consideration and discussion of **SB 56 - Elections; security of advance voting ballots.**

Ken Wilke said the bill primarily addresses advanced voting ballots and the original design was to provide security for transmitting the ballot by a person designated in writing. An amendment indicating the voter must sign and date the time when the ballot was taken for transit was inserted on page 3, lines 9 and 10. He said an additional amendment was added by the Senate committee of the whole, outlining procedures in the event of a violation.

Representative Brunk made a motion to report **SB 56** favorably for passage. Representative Otto seconded the motion. Following committee discussion, Representative Sawyer made a substitute motion to amend the bill striking sections 1, 2 and 3 and replacing it with the contents of New Section Two described in the balloon **Sub for SB 117**. Representative Menghini seconded the motion. The Chairman called for a show of hands to record the vote, 5 - 4. The substitute motion passed. Representative Sawyer made a motion to report **Sub for SB 56** favorably for passage as amended. Representative Garcia seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The Chairman called for consideration and discussion of **SB 103 - Elections; certain local units of government; primaries.**

Ken Wilke said the language of **SB 103** would delete the previous requirements regarding the number of persons allowed on the general election ballot. Reinsertion of prior language with regard to election on a school board or community college board and the elimination of a primary election under certain circumstances is included in the bill.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the House Elections Committee at 3:30 p.m. on March 18, 2009, in Room 446-N of the Capitol.

Representative Sawyer made a motion to report **SB 103** favorably for passage. Representative Menghini seconded the motion. By show of hands the motion failed., 4 - 5.

Representative Otto made a motion to re-consider action on **SB 56**. Representative Brunk seconded the motion. By show of hands, the motion to re-consider passed, 5 - 4. Representative Sawyer moved to renew his motion to pass **SB 56** as amended as **Sub for SB 56**. Representative Menghini seconded the motion. By show of hands the motion failed, 4 - 5.

Representative Sawyer made a motion to adopt the original amendment of **SB 56**. Representative Bethell seconded the motion. By show of hands the motion failed, 2 - 5. Representative Brunk made a motion to report **SB 56** favorably for passage. The motion passed. Representative Sawyer requested his No vote be recorded.

Representative Brunk expressed appreciation for the participation of the Ranking Minority.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m. There are no additional meetings scheduled for the 2009 Legislative Session.