

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMERCE COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Robert Olson at 10:36 am on Tuesday, February 23, 2021, in room 546-S of the Capitol.

All members were present

Committee staff present:

Charles Reimer, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Dylan Dear, Legislative Research Department
Kyle Hamilton, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Matthew Willis, Legislative Research Department
Michael Welton, Committee Assistant
Andrew Tash - Webex Technician

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Walter Geiss, American Legion, Post 153
Mark Dugan, Opportunity Solutions Project
Eric Stafford, Kansas Chamber
Kevin Walker, Overland Park Chamber of Commerce
Andrew Wiens, Wichita Chamber of Commerce
Elizabeth Patton, Kansas Americans for Prosperity
Larry Karns, KS State Board of Technical Professionals
Rachelle Columbo, KS Medical Society
Allie Devine, KS Society of Land Surveyors
Aron Dunn, KCPA
Dana Williamson, AIA of Kansas
David Soffer, Kansas Department of Commerce (KDOC)
Scott Cain, American Council of Engineering Companies
Tucker Poling, KS Board of Healing Arts
Alanna Wilson, George Mason University

Others in attendance:

No list available

Chairman Olson convened the meeting.

Hearing on: SB126 — Authorizing the sale of alcoholic liquor by class A clubs at special events under the club and drinking establishment act.

Chairman Olson opened the hearing on **SB126** and called upon for Charles Reimer for a Revisor of Statutes overview of the bill.

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Chairman Olson called upon Walter Geiss for primary proponent testimony on the bill. Mr. Geiss indicated that the bill had passed out of the Senate and due to Covid-19, it was not pursued further. He explained that the bill is needed in order to continue operational success of legion posts across Kansas.

[\(Attachment 1\)](#)

Seeing no additional testimony, Chairman Olson closed the hearing on **SB126**.

Hearing on: SB137 — Expanding the military spouse and service member's expedited licensure law to all applicants who have established or intend to establish residency in Kansas, providing for licenses in an emergency declared by the legislature, allowing telemedicine by out-of-state healthcare providers and permitting the use of electronic credentials.

Chairman Olson opened the hearing on **SB137** and called upon Charles Reimer for a Revisor of Statutes overview of the bill.

Chairman Olson called upon Representative Chris Croft for primary proponent testimony on the bill. Rep. Croft shared practical and technical history on the bill. He stated that the essence of the bill is to help build and increase the Kansas workforce.

[\(Attachment 2\)](#)

Chairman Olson called upon Mark Dugan for primary proponent testimony on the bill. Mr. Dugan explained that his think tank strives to reduce barriers for the American workforce in order to promote opportunity for Americans to live the American dream. He appealed to the legislature to allow spouses of military families to apply their professions to the benefit of the Kansas economy.

[\(Attachment 3\)](#)

Chairman Olson called upon Eric Stafford for proponent testimony who made a case to allow military spouses to work in the state of Kansas while remaining under the over-site of respective regulatory agencies.

[\(Attachment 4\)](#)

Chairman Olson called upon Kevin Walker for proponent testimony calling for the committee to consider the advantages of the proposed bill to improve the state's workforce.

[\(Attachment 5\)](#)

Chairman Olson called upon Andrew Wiens for proponent testimony who urged the committee to

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understand that branches of the military are now evaluating state licensing policies for future basing decisions.

(Attachment 6)

Chairman Olson called upon Elizabeth Patton for supporting proponent testimony concerning the bill's elements to encourage many qualified professionals to consider making a long term career choices to stay in Kansas. Ms. Patton indicated that boards and regulators do have very broad discretion regarding licensing credentialing. She opined that the bill did not challenge that authority. Ms. Patton urged the committee to provide families the opportunity for a more productive and dignified Kansas career experience.

(Attachment 7)

Committee questions and comments ensued.

Written-Only Proponent Testimony

John Jenks, Greater KC Chamber of Commerce

(Attachment 8)

Heather Sprague Scanlon, United We .

(Attachment 9)

Courtney Eichorn, Kansas Citizen

(Attachment 10)

Chairman Olson called upon Larry Karns for primary opponent testimony on the bill. He claimed that this bill would lower the standards and qualifications for many technical professions.

(Attachment 11)

Written-Only Opponent and Neutral Testimony:

Rachelle Columbo, Kansas Medical Society

(Attachment 12)

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Allie Devine/Jason Johnson, Kansas Society of Land Surveyors

[\(Attachment 13\)](#)

Chairman Olson called upon Aron Dunn for opponent testimony.

[\(Attachment 14\)](#)

Chairman Olson called upon Dana Williamson for opponent testimony.

[\(Attachment 15\)](#)

Susan Somers, KS Board of Accountancy

[\(Attachment 16\)](#)

Chairman Olson called upon Todd Fleischer

[\(Attachment 17\)](#)

Chad Johanning, KS Academy of Physicians

[\(Attachment 18\)](#)

Mark Tomb, KS Association of Realtors

[\(Attachment 19\)](#)

Erik Wisner, Kansas Real Estate Commission

[\(Attachment 20\)](#)

Sean Simms, American Society of Landscape Architects

[\(Attachment 21\)](#)

Travis Lowe, KSPE

[\(Attachment 22\)](#)

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Megan Kilgore, KS Veterinary Medical Association

(Attachment 23)

Chairman Olson suspended the hearing on **SB137** until the next committee meeting.

Chairman Olson adjourned the meeting at 11:59 am. The next meeting is scheduled for February 24, 2021.