

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chair Sharon Schwartz at 9:00 A.M. on February 25, 2008, in Room 514-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative JoAnn Pottorff - excused
 Representative Tom Sawyer - excused
 Representative Jason Watkins - excused
 Representative Kay Wolf - excused

Committee staff present:

Alan Conroy, Legislative Research Department
 J. G. Scott, Legislative Research Department
 Cody Gorges, Legislative Research Department
 Heather O'Hara, Legislative Research Department
 Nobuko Folmsbee, Revisor of Statutes
 Nikki Feuerborn, Chief of Staff
 Shirley Jepson, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

David Springe, Consumer Counsel, Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board (CURB)
 Scott Gates, Director of the Learning Quest Program, State Treasurer's Office
 Amy Boydston, Director, Kansas Chapter of Children's Advocacy Center

Others attending:

See attached list.

- Attachment 1 Testimony on **HB 2919** by David Springe
- Attachment 2 Budget Committee Report on State Treasurer, Office of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State and Insurance Department
- Attachment 3 Response to Committee questions from Department of Transportation

Hearing on HB 2919

Hearing - HB 2919: CURB; negotiation for contracts for professional services.

Nobuko Folmsbee, Office of Revisor of Statutes, explained that **HB 2919** authorizes the Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board (CURB) to negotiate contracts for professional services, including engineers, accountants, attorneys and economists. In previous sessions, the provisions of the bill have been addressed in a proviso within the Appropriations act. This bill would remove the necessity for a proviso by putting the provisions in statute.

David Springe, Consumer Counsel for the Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board, presented testimony in support of **HB 2919** (Attachment 1). Mr. Springe stated that CURB is the statutory advocate for residential and small commercial customers in cases before the Kansas Corporation Commission, the Kansas courts and the legislature. Mr. Springe noted that language in **HB 2919** is drawn directly from an existing agency budget proviso, the same procedures used currently in negotiating contracts for professional services.

Responding to a question from the Committee, Mr. Springe stated that information technology support services are provided by the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC). Because the CURB office is small, it is felt that this procedure is more cost effective.

There were no other proponents or opponents to appear to testify on **HB 2919**.

The hearing on HB 2919 was closed.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Appropriations Committee at 9:00 A.M. on February 25, 2008, in Room 514-S of the Capitol.

State Treasurer

Representative Yoder, Chair of the General Government Budget Committee, presented the Budget Committee report on the Governor's budget recommendations for the State Treasurer for FY 2008 and moved for the adoption of the Budget Committee recommendations for FY 2008 (Attachment 2). The motion was seconded by Representative Lane. Motion carried.

Representative Yoder, Chair of the General Government Budget Committee, presented the Budget Committee report on the Governor's budget recommendations for the State Treasurer for FY 2009 and moved for the adoption of the Budget Committee recommendations for FY 2009 (Attachment 2). The motion was seconded by Representative Lane. Motion carried.

Responding to a question from the Committee, Scott Gates, Director of the Learning Quest Program, State Treasurer's Office, stated that the KIDS matching grant program is a part of the Learning Quest program, whereby the State matches contributions made to the Learning Quest college savings account by individuals who are 200 percent under the federal poverty level, currently \$42,000. The program was originally created as a 3-year pilot program and the current year is the 3rd year of the program. The original program was created for 1200 participants with funding for a total of \$720,000. Funding for the program was reduced to \$480,000 in FY 2008 of which \$274,000 was paid-out to 542 participants, with the balance of \$106,000 returned to the State General Fund (SGF).

Office of the Governor

Representative Lane, member of the General Government Budget Committee, presented the Budget Committee report on the Governor's budget recommendations for the Office of the Governor for FY 2008 and moved for the adoption of the Budget Committee recommendations for FY 2008 (Attachment 2). The motion was seconded by Representative Yoder. Motion carried.

Representative Lane, member of the General Government Budget Committee, presented the Budget Committee report on the Governor's budget recommendations for the Office of the Governor for FY 2009 and moved for the adoption of the Budget Committee recommendations for FY 2009 (Attachment 2). The motion was seconded by Representative Yoder. Motion carried.

Responding to questions from the Committee regarding the grant programs administered by the Office of the Governor, Amy Boydston, Director, Kansas Chapter of Children's Advocacy Center, stated that the funding for the Child Advocacy Centers is administered through the Governor's federal and other grants program through an allocation process. Local centers who are in receipt of the funding are subject to the same scrutiny and accountability as other grants including filing financial reports and on-site reviews by the Governors office grants program staff. Ms. Boydston indicated that less than 5 percent of the grant funding is spent on administrative costs.

Office of the Lieutenant Governor

Representative Beamer, member of the General Government Budget Committee, presented the Budget Committee report on the Governor's budget recommendations for the Office of the Lieutenant Governor for FY 2008 and moved for the adoption of the Budget Committee recommendations for FY 2008 (Attachment 2). The motion was seconded by Representative Lane. Motion carried.

Representative Beamer, member of the General Government Budget Committee, presented the Budget Committee report on the Governor's budget recommendations for the Office of the Lieutenant Governor for FY 2009 and moved for the adoption of the Budget Committee recommendations for FY 2009 (Attachment 2). The motion was seconded by Representative Lane. Motion carried.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Appropriations Committee at 9:00 A.M. on February 25, 2008, in Room 514-S of the Capitol.

Attorney General

Representative Burroughs, member of the General Government Budget Committee, presented the Budget Committee report on the Governor's budget recommendations for the Attorney General for FY 2008 and moved for the adoption of the Budget Committee recommendations for FY 2008 (Attachment 2). The motion was seconded by Representative Lane. Motion carried.

Representative Burroughs, member of the General Government Budget Committee, presented the Budget Committee report on the Governor's budget recommendations for the Attorney General for FY 2009 and moved for the adoption of the Budget Committee recommendations for FY 2009 (Attachment 2). The motion was seconded by Representative Lane. Motion carried.

The Budget Committee noted that a minority report is attached to the Budget Committee report on the Attorney General for FY 2009.

The Budget Committee indicated that additional information has been requested prior to Omnibus on a number of the enhancement requests because the budget was prepared by the former Attorney General and may not represent the priorities of the newly installed Attorney General.

Secretary of State

Representative Yoder, Chair of the General Government Budget Committee, presented the Budget Committee report on the Governor's budget recommendations for the Secretary of State for FY 2008 and moved for the adoption of the Budget Committee recommendations for FY 2008 (Attachment 2). The motion was seconded by Representative Beamer. Motion carried.

The Budget Committee noted that a minority report is attached to the Budget Committee report on the Secretary of State for FY 2008.

Representative Yoder, Chair of the General Government Budget Committee, presented the Budget Committee report on the Governor's budget recommendations for the Secretary of State for FY 2009 and moved for the adoption of the Budget Committee recommendations for FY 2009 (Attachment 2). The motion was seconded by Representative Beamer. Motion carried.

Kansas Insurance Department

Representative Lane, member of the General Government Budget Committee, presented the Budget Committee report on the Governor's budget recommendations for the State Treasurer for FY 2008 and moved for the adoption of the Budget Committee recommendations for FY 2008 (Attachment 2). The motion was seconded by Representative Yoder. Motion carried.

Representative Lane, member of the General Government Budget Committee, presented the Budget Committee report on the Governor's budget recommendations for the State Treasurer for FY 2009 and moved for the adoption of the Budget Committee recommendations for FY 2009 (Attachment 2). The motion was seconded by Representative Burroughs. Motion carried.

Distribution of Information

As requested by the Committee, information from the Department of Transportation (KDOT) on the Traffic Records Enhancement Fund (TREF) was distributed to the Committee (Attachment 3).

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m. The next meeting of the Committee will be held at 9:00 a.m. on February 26, 2008.

Sharon Schwartz, Chair