

MINUTES OF THE SENATE ASSESSMENT AND TAXATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Barbara Allen at 10:40 A.M. on January 10, 2007 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Greta Goodwin- excused

Les Donovan- excused

Pat Apple- excused

Committee staff present:

Chris Courtwright, Kansas Legislative Research

Martha Dorsey, Kansas Legislative Research

Gordon Self, Revisor of Statutes Office

Jason Thompson, Revisor of Statutes Office

Judy Swanson, Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairman Allen welcomed Committee members to the first meeting of the 2007 Legislative Session. Guidelines for conferees appearing before the Committee were distributed. (Attachment 1)

Senator Schmidt made a motion to introduce a bill which would create a tax credit to Kansas families for Kansas students attending Kansas colleges. Senator Lee seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Chris Courtwright, Legislative Research, reviewed the Report of the Special Committee on Assessment and Taxation. (Attachment 2) The Special Committee recommended questions relating to justification of any new sales tax exemptions should be answered by all parties seeking sales tax exemption legislation. The Committee also recommended the repeal of seldom-used income tax credits.

Homestead expansion was recommended by the Special Committee. The Committee suggested legislation be introduced to reduce "rent constituting property taxes paid" from 20 to 15 percent, while simultaneously increasing the maximum refund amount for both homeowners and renters from \$600 to \$700.

Martha Dorsey, Legislative Research, further reviewed the Special Committee Report. County local sales tax was discussed during the interim. However, no recommendations for change were made. Motor fuel taxation along the Kansas border was discussed by the Special Committee, but no legislative recommendation was made to proceed with changing the current method of taxation. The interim committee suggested instead a study be conducted to include all border taxes, including those for cigarettes and food sales.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.