

MINUTES OF THE SENATE ELECTIONS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Barbara Allen at 1:30 p.m. on March 11, 2004 in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator Derek Schmidt- excused

Committee staff present:

Mike Heim, Legislative Research

Martha Dorsey, Legislative Research

Ken Wilke, Revisor of Statutes

Nancy Kirkwood, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Representative Ward Loyd

Senator Steinegar

Sarah Steele, Attorney, Gilmore & Bell - Written testimony only

Marlene Nagel, Community Development Director, MARC, Written testimony only

Pat Rahija, Wyandotte County Election Commissioner

Representative Carol Beggs

Representative Jene Vickrey

Marilyn Nichols, Shawnee County Register of Deeds

Others attending:

See Attached List.

Hearing on:

HB 2793 - Drainage districts; tax levies for general fund

Chairperson Allen welcomed members to the committee and opened the hearing on **HB 2793**.

Representative Loyd recognized by Chairperson Allen spoke in support of **HB 2793**. Representative Loyd stated the bill would amend the provisions of K.S.A. 24-639, which would allow the electors of Drainage District #1 to authorize, if they so decide by affirmative vote in an election on the proposition, a mill levy for a term of years longer than four, sufficient to retire a bond issue (Attachment 1).

Representative Loyd presented written testimony from Sarah Steele, Attorney, Gilmore & Bell in support of **HB 2793** ([Attachment 2](#)).

Chairperson Allen welcomed Senator Steinegar to the committee. Senator Steinegar testified in support of **HB 2793** with a proposed amendment. His amendment would apply to counties over 150,000 in population and cities over 140,000 in population, to create an easement for purposes specified in subsection (b) a) hiking, b) bicycle riding, c) horseback riding, and d) walking ([Attachment 3](#)).

Marlene Nagel submitted written testimony in support of Senator Steinegar's amendment (Attachment 4).

After questions from the committee and there being no others to testify on **HB 2793**, Chairperson Allen closed the hearing on **HB 2793**.

HB 2758 - Open records act; exemption; military discharge forms

Representative Carol Beggs, recognized by the Chair testified in support of **HB 2758**. He testified as the Legislative Liaison for the Ft. Riley Retiree Council, representing all Military Retirees of the Five State Area surrounding Kansas. **HB 2758** would amend the Kansas Open Records Act (KORA) to add two new exceptions from the openness requirement; 1) military discharge papers and 2) the location of a safe house or shelter ([Attachment 5](#)).

Chairperson Allen welcomed Representative Vickrey to committee. Rep. Vickrey testified in support of **HB 2758**. He stated the language is written broadly to encompass any safe house or similar place where

CONTINUATION SHEET

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persons are provided safety from abuse (Attachment 6).

Marilyn Nichols, Shawnee County Register of Deeds, testified in support of **HB 2758**

There being no others to testify on **HB 2758**, Chairperson Allen closed the hearing.

HB 2641 - Drainage districts: Definition of taxpayer

Chairperson Allen recognized Patricia Rahija, appearing on behalf of the Kansas County Clerks' & Election Officials Association. Her testimony in support of **HB 2641**, provides a definition of "taxpayer" for drainage districts. Ms. Rahija stated there are two drainage districts in Wyandotte County and each has a different definition of "taxpayer". **HB 2641** would clarify it (Attachment 7).

There being no others to testify on **HB 2641**, the Chair closed the hearing.

Testimony was handed out to committee from Ed Jaskinia, President, The Associated Landlords of Kansas. Mr. Jaskinia had testified in support of **HB 2615** at the hearing on March 9. Chairperson Allen had requested Mr. Jaskinia to furnish written testimony to the committee (Attachment 8).

Approval of minutes

Senator O'Connor moved to approve the minutes of January 22, 27, 29, and February 12, 17, 19, 24. Senator Betts seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Chairperson Allen informed the committee it would be meeting next week to take action on bills that were being heard today and Thursday.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m. The next scheduled meeting is for Tuesday, March 16, 2004.