

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Representative Mike Burgess, Chair, at 3:30 p.m. on March 14, 2011 in Room 546-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Rep. Rocky Fund – Excused

Committee staff present:

Julian Efird, Legislative Research
Iraida Orr, Legislative Research
Katherine McBride, Revisor of Statutes
Renaë Jefferies, Revisor of Statutes
Linda Herrick, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Lisa Jones, General Manager
Kansas.gov/Kansas Information Consortium

Others attending:

(See attached list.)

Chair Burgess opened the hearing on **HB 2268 - Relating to the collection of licenses, fees, charges, taxes and exactions**. Katherine McBride explained that the bill provides that any state agency that is obligated by statute to collect any license, fee, charge, tax or other exaction is authorized to add a charge or a discount not to exceed 5% of the amount of the license, fee, charge, tax or other exaction in order to enhance the efficiency of the agency. Renaë Jefferies noted a clarification can be added to the bill to cap the 5%. Chair Burgess then asked if there were any proponents or opponents wishing to testify. There were none.

He then called upon Lisa Jones, who was a neutral, to provide testimony (Attachment 1). Ms. Jones reported the first state electronic governmental portal was started in 1992 here in Kansas. Information Network of Kansas (INK) has built hundreds of online services for more than 50 states and 150 local agencies. INK is managed by a ten-member board of directors and Jim Hollingsworth is the only state employee. The operation of the portal is outsourced to a private entity, Kansas Information Consortium, and no tax appropriations are used to operate the portal. Small transaction fees provide for the portal operation. The bill states that the agency fees for services should reflect the cost to deliver the service. Since paper processing is more costly, electronic service is less expensive and more efficient. INK would benefit from this bill and stands neutral, but does support the bill to reduce the cost of government. Persons can also file online 24/7.

Chair Burgess closed the hearing by indicating the Revisors will add a balloon to the bill for a wording clarification intended to make enough of a price differential to encourage persons to submit electronically.

The Chair asked if there was any other business to come before the committee. There was none.

The meeting tomorrow will be cancelled, and the next meeting will be Wednesday, March 16.

The meeting adjourned at 4:04 p.m.