

Approved: 2/06/12
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steven R. Brunk at 1:30 p.m. on January 30, 2012, in Room 346-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Huebert-excused
Representative Peterson-excused

Committee staff present:

Mike Heim, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Julian Efird, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Dennis Hodgins, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Stephen Bainum, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Representative Jim Howell
Christopher J. Tymeson, Chief Legal Counsel, Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism

Others attending: See attached

The Chairman called for bill introductions: Representative Knox introduced a bill to prohibit the regulation of knives by local governments and deletes knives from several criminal statutes.

The Chairman opened the hearing on **HB 2491–Lawfully possessed handguns permitted while hunting, fishing and fur harvesting.**

Mike Heim explained the changes being made in this bill as allowing a person to carry a handgun while fishing, hunting or furgathering. Representative Knox asked how does anyone know my purpose for carrying. Doesn't the 2nd Amendment cover this? Mike said that this was just giving reasons for carrying. Representative Seiwert said that the reason for the bill is that the country has changed and self defense might be needed.

Representative Carlson suggested the addition of “for any other lawful purpose”.

Representative Jim Howell provided testimony as a proponent of **HB 2491** (Attachment 1). He said that Kansas hunting regulations need to catch up with the new language in the Kansas Constitution.

Representative Grosserode asked if officers of the law could carry concealed while they were hunting simply because they were law enforcement. Jim said that there was some confusion in the law, sometimes the language appears to be conflicting and the language in this bill would clarify it.

Representative Carlson said he looked at the bill as cleanup language to the concealed carry legislation. He did not think the bill should be controversial.

Christopher Tymeson presented testimony as a proponent of **HB 2491** (Attachment 2). He indicated that the KDWP Commission had concerns about allowing any weapons during primitive weapons seasons, limiting the firearms to just handguns for the purpose of self defense does address those concerns. The

CONTINUATION SHEET

The minutes of the House Federal and State Affairs Committee at 1:30 p.m. on January 30, 2012, in Room 346-S of the Capitol.

Department supports the passage of this bill.

Representative Carlson asked his opinion if we added “for any other lawful purpose”. Christopher said that language was fine with him.

The Chairman closed the hearing on **HB 2491**.

Written testimony in support of **HB 2491** was submitted by:

Representative Gary K. Hayzlett

Representative Jana T. Goodman

Chad Baker, Self

Preston L. Madding, Self

Shawn Howell, Self

Aaron Miller, Self

Timothy Hager, Self

Patricia Stoneking, President, Kansas State Rifle Association

The next meeting is scheduled for January 31, 2012.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:08 p.m.