

MINUTES OF THE SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ralph Ostmeyer at 8:35 a.m. on March 3, 2011, in Room 159-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator Steve Morris, Excused

Committee staff present:

Tamera Lawrence, Office of the Revisor of Statutes

Jason Thompson, Office of the Revisor of Statutes

Heather O'Hara, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Laura Younker, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Dana Wethington, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Christopher Tymeson, Chief Legal Counsel, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks

Jordan Austin, State Lobbyist, National Rifle Association

Patricia Stoneking, President, Kansas State Rifle Association

Synthia Wilson, Olathe, Kansas

Others attending:

See attached list.

SB 214 – Redefining "person" in the groundwater management district act

Chairman Ostmeyer opened the hearing on **SB 214**.

Revisor Tamera Lawrence gave an overview. It would change the existing definition of "person" for the purposes of the Groundwater Management District Act to mean any natural person, public or private corporation, municipality, or any other legal commercial entity. The existing definition of "person" does not include the term "or any other legal commercial entity."

Mark Rude, Groundwater Management Districts provided written testimony in support of the **SB 214**. In addition, the Kansas GMDs recommended an amendment to the language of the bill that would strike "an individual, corporation, business trust, estate, trust, partnership, limited liability company, association, joint venture, government; governmental subdivision, agency or instrumentality; public corporation" and insert "any natural person, public or private corporation, municipality" in its place. (Attachment 1) Discussion followed.

Senator Teichman made a motion, Senator Schmidt seconded and motion carried to amend SB 214.

There being no further discussion, Chairman Ostmeyer closed the hearing and called for final action on **SB 214**.

Senator Teichman made a motion, seconded by Senator Schmidt; motion carried that SB 214 as amended be passed out favorably.

SB 152 – Clarifying that a person with a concealed carry permit may carry a concealed firearm while legally hunting, fishing or furharvesting

Chairman Ostmeyer opened the hearing on **SB 152**.

Revisor Tamera Lawrence gave an overview. **SB 152** would permit a person with a concealed carry license to carry a concealed handgun while lawfully hunting, fishing, or fur harvesting. The bill also would permit a person with a legally acquired suppression device to use the device while lawfully hunting, fishing, or furharvesting.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the Senate Natural Resources Committee at 8:35 a.m. on March 3, 2011, in Room 159-S of the Capitol.

Christopher Tymeson, Chief Legal Counsel, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, provided testimony in support of **SB 152**. (Attachment 2) He stated that concealed carry has long been allowed while hunting or angling, except during archery only seasons and spotlighting. He added the bill would allow the use of suppressors while hunting.

Jordan Austin, State Lobbyist, National Rifle Association, testified in support of **SB 152**. (Attachment 3) He said the bill would allow bow hunters to protect themselves from dangerous predators by using a weapon other than the one for which they are licensed.

Patricia Stoneking, President of the Kansas State Rifle Association testified in support of **SB 152**. (Attachment 4) She stated that they have received many reports of hunters happening upon situations that made them feel that their personal safety was in peril.

Synthia Wilson, resident of Olathe, Kansas, testified in support of **SB 152**. She described a number of situations encountered while hunting alone when personal safety was in jeopardy and more protection was desired. (Attachment 5)

Discussion followed.

There being no further conferees, Chairman Ostmeyer closed the hearing and called for final action on **SB 152**.

Senator Love made a motion, seconded by Senator Teichman that **SB 152** be passed out favorably. Following discussion, Chairman Ostmeyer announced additional time will be given for consideration of **SB 152**.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 4, 2011.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.