

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ETHICS AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Representative Don Myers at 3:30 p.m. on January 22, 2003 in Room 521-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative David Huff, Excused

Committee staff present: Ken Wilke, Revisor  
Dennis Hodgins, Reseach  
Kathie Sparks, Research  
Shirley Weideman, Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Secretary of State Ron Thornburgh  
Jim Edwards, Kansas Association of School Boards

Others attending: See attach list.

Chairman Myers welcomed the committee members. He asked the committee members and the staff to introduce themselves. This included eleven other new committee members and one new staff member.

Representative R.J. Wilson requested a committee bill relating to expenditures for political campaigns. All receipts and expenditures from the day after the general election until the day after the primary election shall be allocated to the primary election. Receipts and expenditures after the primary election until the general election shall be allocated to the general election.

Representative Wilson moved to introduce this as a bill. The motion was seconded by Representative Yonally. Motion passed.

Jim Edwards, governmental relations specialist with the Kansas Association of School Boards, requested a bill regarding the state law listing the grounds for the recall of elected officials, including school board members. He said the current law does not define "misconduct" or "incompetence" as grounds for recall of elected officials. (Attachment 1)

Representative Sawyer moved and the motion was seconded by Representative Yonally that such a bill be introduced. The motion passed.

Chairman Myers reported on his trip to the National Secretary of States' meeting in Denver in 2002.

Secretary of State Ron Thornburgh was welcomed to the committee by Chairman Myers. Secretary Thornburgh gave the committee an overview of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA). He said it is only a brief outline of the act. He covered voting standards and education of poll workers, which included new provisional ballot requirements and new voter identification requirements for voters registering by mail. Secretary Thornburgh also reviewed the accessibility requirements and the implementation of a new, central statewide voter database. Lastly, Secretary Thornburgh discussed the financing of the Help America Vote Act. Kansas should receive \$5 million solely for improving elections. Kansas will be eligible for over \$27 million to implement the federal HAVA requirements.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ETHICS AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE at on January 22, 2003 in Room 521-S of the Capitol.

(Attachment 2)

Secretary Thornburgh responded to committee member's questions on complying or not complying with the standards, when the state needs to be in compliance, the cost of maintaining voting equipment and the goals of HAVA. Chairman Myers thanked the Secretary for briefing the committee.

The Chairman asked for further bill introductions, there being none the meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m. The next scheduled meeting of the committee is January 27 at 3:30 p.m.