

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION AND ELECTIONS  
COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jene Vickrey at 3:30 P.M. on February 8, 2005 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Mike Heim, Legislative Research Department  
Martha Dorsey, Legislative Research Department  
Norm Furse, Revisor of Statutes Office  
Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes Office  
Maureen Stinson, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Doug Anstett, Kansas Press Association  
Theresa Bush, Office of the Attorney General  
Harriet Lange, Kansas Association of Broadcasters  
Judy Moler, Kansas Association of Counties  
Don Moler, League of Kansas Municipalities

Others attending:

See attached list.

**HB 2095**      **Office of public integrity; established**

Martha Dorsey, Legislative Research, provided a briefing to the committee on **HB 2095**.

Chairman Vickrey opened the hearing on:

**HB 2095**      **Office of public integrity; established**

Doug Anstett, Kansas Press Association, testified in support of the bill (Attachment 1). He said that the Kansas Press Association's Legislative Committee believes that an Office of Public Integrity in the Attorney General's Office will become a welcome advocate for those who believe they have been illegally denied access to what their government is doing.

Theresa Bush, Office of the Attorney General, testified in support of the bill (Attachment 2). She explains that the bill codifies current practices, including the policy of the attorney general's office to refer complaints against local units of government to the county or district attorney in the locale where the alleged violation took place. She said the only substantive addition to current practices is the requirement for annual reporting.

Kevin Graham, Office of the Attorney General, in response to questions from the committee, clarified the fiscal impact of the bill on the attorney general's office.

Harriet Lange, Kansas Association of Broadcasters, testified in support of the bill (Attachment 3). She said the bill provides for the collection of information relating to complaints of alleged violations of the Kansas Open Records Act (KORA) and the Kansas Open Meetings Act (KOMA).

## CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Governmental Organization and Elections Committee at 3:30 P.M. on February 8, 2005 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

Don Moler, League of Kansas Municipalities, testified in opposition to the bill (Attachment 4). He said that the League of Kansas Municipalities and the Kansas Association of Counties train more public officials in the Open Meetings and Open Records Acts than anyone else in Kansas.

Judy Moler, Kansas Association of Counties, testified in opposition to the bill (Attachment 5). She said that they can find no reason that the office is needed nor the expense to the state warranted.

Chairman Vickrey closed the hearing on **HB 2095**.

### **HB 2005**      **Elections; disclosure of felony conviction**

Rep. Lane, chair of the subcommittee, reported to the committee that the subcommittee was recommending that a balloon amendment be adopted (Attachment 6).

Rep. Yonally made a motion to adopt the balloon amendment (Attachment 6). Rep. Lane seconded the motion. The motion carried. HB 2005 was amended.

Rep. Sawyer made a motion to for the favorable passage of HB 2005 as amended and to include any necessary technical amendments. Rep. Lane seconded the motion. The motion carried. HB 2005 is Passed As Amended.

### **HB 2058**      **Requiring continuing education for certain contractors licensed by cities and counties**

Rep. Sawyer made a motion to amend the bill to remove (a) the option that the required training could be approved by a nationally recognized trade association, and (b) the limitation that no more than four hours of the education may be certified training specific for the industry. Rep. Yonally seconded the motion. The motion carried. HB 2058 is amended. Rep. Holland made a motion for the favorable passage of HB 2058 as amended. Motion carried. HB 2058 is Passed As Amended. Rep. Otto and Rep. Oharah asked to be recorded as “no” votes.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Rep. Yonally made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2005 and January 18, 2005 meetings. Rep. Lane seconded the motion. The motion carried. The minutes of the January 13, 2005 and January 18, 2005 meetings are approved.

Chairman Vickrey adjourned the meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 10, 2005.