

MINUTES OF THE SENATE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dwayne Umbarger at 10:35 A.M. on January 30, 2007, in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator Carolyn McGinn- excused

Committee staff present:

Jill Wolters, Senior Assistant, Revisor of Statutes
Alan Conroy, Director, Kansas Legislative Research Department
J. G. Scott, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Audrey Dunkel, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Julian Efird, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Susan Kannarr, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Michael Steiner, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Melinda Gaul, Chief of Staff, Senate Ways & Means
Mary Shaw, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Neville Kenning, Hay Consulting Group
Robin Kempf, Interim General Counsel, Kansas Board of Regents

Others attending:

See attached list.

Bill Introduction

Senator Wysong moved, with a second by Senator Barone, to introduce a bill concerning municipalities; postemployment benefits other than retirement; authorization (7rs0606). Motion carried on a voice vote.

Chairman Umbarger turned the Committee's attention to discussion of the minutes from previous meetings. Senator Schodorf moved, with a second by Senator Kelly, to approve the minutes of the January 9, January 10, January 11, January 16 and January 22, 2007, meetings. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Chairman Umbarger acknowledged Alan Conroy, Director, Kansas Legislative Research Department, who introduced Neville Kenning, National Director State Government Consulting Practice, Hay Group. Mr. Kenning provided a briefing on the State Employee Pay Plan Study, Phase 1, State of Kansas Salary Survey Report (Attachment 1). Information was provided on the background and objective; project process; analysis and commentary on internal pay practice; analysis and commentary of external competitiveness; summary of external competitiveness and construct of salary ranges.

Mr. Kenning mentioned in the Summary of External Competitiveness that overall, the State of Kansas salary practice lags noticeably behind both the median and average of the market. He also noted that the State of Kansas trails the market in all categories on aggregate. He mentioned that there is a problem with steps because there is very little variability. There were committee questions.

The Chairman turned the Committee's attention to discussion of:

SB 11--Enacting the alcoholism treatment facilities licensing act

The Revisor explained a balloon amendment that incorporate the amendments approved by the Committee at a previous meeting (Attachment 2). Senator V. Schmidt expressed concern regarding pages 3 and 4 of the balloon that would add professionals licensed by the Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board to independently

CONTINUATION SHEET

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practice to the list of persons exempted from the requirements to be licensed as a treatment facility before providing alcohol and drug abuse treatment services. Senator Schmidt felt that this amendment would cloud the waters of the original bill. Following committee discussion, a motion was made by Senator V. Schmidt, with a second by Senator Steineger, to adopt the balloon amendment excluding pages 3 and 4. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Senator V. Schmidt moved, with a second, to introduce pages 3 and 4 of the balloon amendment as a separate bill. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Senator Steineger moved, with a second by Senator V. Schmidt, to recommend **SB 11** favorably for passage as amended. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

Chairman Umbarger opened the public hearing on:

SB 21--State educational institutions; enhancement of leave benefits of certain employees thereof

Staff briefed the committee on the bill.

The Chairman welcomed Robin Kempf, Interim General Counsel, Kansas Board of Regents, who presented testimony in support of **SB 21** (Attachment 3). Ms. Kempf explained that **SB 21** would resolve a conflict created by two legislative acts intended to provide state universities flexibility, under the supervision of the Board of Regents, in managing their staff. It was noted that **SB 21** was essentially a technical cleanup bill that would provide state universities flexibility in determining both compensation and annual leave levels, under the supervision of the Board, and not require a university and its staff to choose between one or the other.

There being no further conferees to appear before the Committee, the Chairman closed the public hearing on **SB 21**.

The Revisor distributed copies of a technical cleanup balloon (Attachment 4). Senator Emler moved, with a second by Senator Steineger, to adopt the balloon and recommend **SB 21** favorable for passage as amended. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for January 31, 2007.