

MINUTES OF THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Senator Vratil at 9:37 a.m. on March 13, 2002 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Gordon Self, Revisor
Mike Heim, Research
Mary Blair, Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Bob G. Odell, Sheriff, Cowley County
Oren K. Skiles, Chief of Police, Arkansas City
Larry W. Dobbs, Chief of Police, Winfield
Judge Janice D. Russell
Kathy Olsen, Kansas Bankers Association (KBA)
Matthew Goddard, Heartland Community Bankers Association (HCBA)

Others attending: see attached list

The minutes of the March 12th, 2002 meeting were approved on a motion by Senator Donovan, seconded by Senator Schmidt. Carried.

SB 520—establishing the office of district attorney in the 19th judicial district

Senator Goodwin reviewed her bill, **SB 520**, a bill which would establish an office of district attorney in Cowley County, Kansas. She briefly discussed the purpose for the bill and introduced conferees from her county.(no attachment)

Conferee Odell testified in support of **SB 520**, a bill which he stated would “greatly increase the professionalism and efficiency of the county’s prosecutorial staff.” He discussed how the bill would accomplish this.(attachment 1)

Conferee Skiles testified in support of **SB 520**. He stated there was an increase in the number of arrests in Cowley County due to illegal drug use and he discussed the need for increased prosecutorial abilities. On inquiry by Committee he stated that funding for a district attorney’s salary would be the county’s responsibility.(attachment 2)

Conferee Dobbs testified in support of **SB 520**. He reiterated the need for a well qualified district attorney in the 19th judicial district.(attachment 3) Following discussion, Senator Donovan moved to pass the bill out favorably, Senator Goodwin seconded. Carried.

Sub HB 2673—CINC; changing definition of sexual abuse

Conferee Russell testified in support of **Sub for HB 2673**, a bill which expands the definition of the crime of contributing to a child’s misconduct or deprivation. She discussed a certain Court of Appeals case and the problem which was created as a result of it and suggested a solution to the problem.(attachment 4)

HB 2771—requires garnishee to furnish a fax and email number for service of process

Conferee Olsen testified in support of **HB 2771**. She reviewed the purpose of the bill and discussed its provisions. Following discussion the Chair suggested certain amendatory language be added to the bill to provide more latitude for the garnishee and to establish a place to which the garnishee may file his fax number or email number. The conferee agreed to provide Committee with amended language at a later date.(attachment 5)

Conferee Goddard testified in support of **HB 2771**. He discussed how the process of dealing with garnishment orders works and stated that the use of fax in service of process has worked smoothly thus far. He cautioned that an increase in people performing these services increases the risk of sending information to an incorrect fax number. He stated that this bill would make the process uniform.(attachment 6)

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m. The next meeting is March 14, 2002.