

## MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Melvin Neufeld at 9:00 a.m. on April 30, 2003, in Room 514-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Jerry Henry, Excused  
Representative Rocky Nichols, Excused

Committee staff present:

J. G. Scott, Legislative Research Department  
Amy Deckard, Legislative Research Department  
Amy VanHouse, Legislative Research Department  
Nicoletta Buonasera, Legislative Research Department  
Becky Krahl, Legislative Research Department  
Audrey Nogle, Legislative Research Department  
Debra Hollon, Legislative Research Department  
Leah Robinson, Legislative Research Department  
Mike Corrigan, Revisor of Statutes  
Jim Wilson, Revisor of Statutes  
Nikki Feuerborn, Administrative Analyst  
Shirley Jepson, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Janet Chubb, Assistant Secretary of State  
Nancy Byrant, Secretary of State's Office

Others attending:

See attached

- Attachment 1 - Written testimony of Janet Chubb, Assistant Secretary of State

**Hearing on SB 195 - Kansas Parole Board; membership reduced to three.**

Nicoletta Buonasera, Legislative Research Department, explained that **SB 195** reduces the size of the Kansas Parole Board from four members to three members. Since the passage of sentencing guidelines in 1993, there has been a declining workload for the Board. It was felt this is a move toward more efficient government. The reduction has been reflected in the FY 2004 budget.

There were no proponents or opponents to come before the Committee.

The hearing on **SB 195** was closed.

Representative Feuerborn moved to pass **SB 195** favorably. The motion was seconded by Representative Osborne. The motion carried.

**Hearing on SB 239 - Secretary of state fees for certain services and publications.**

Amy Deckard, Legislative Research Department, explained that **SB 239** changes the name of the Secretary of State's information and copy services fee fund to informational fee fund and allows the Secretary of State (SOS) to charge a fee for certain publications and credit it to the fee fund.

The Chair recognized Janet Chubb, Assistant Secretary of State, who provided written testimony as a proponent for **SB 239** (Attachment 1). Ms. Chubb stated that the SOS budget from the State General Fund (SGF) has been cut by \$800,000 for FY 2004 and eliminated from the SGF in FY 2005. The agency felt this legislation is a way to fund their budget. Nancy Byrant, Secretary of State's Chief of Staff, stated that the agency expects to collect approximately \$780,000 in fees in FY 2004. Ms. Bryant stated that the agency will continue to review the fees and anticipates raising approximately \$1 million by FY 2005. The agency indicated that an index will be made available containing items which are available on the internet, items that are free-of-charge and the fee to be charged for other items.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS at 9:00 a.m. on April 30, 2003, in Room 514-S of the Capitol.

The hearing on **SB 239** was closed.

The Committee voiced concern that legislators should have free access to any information in order to answer questions from their constituents. Other legislation may be pursued to maintain free access for legislators.

Representative Pottorff moved to pass **SB 239** favorably. The motion was seconded by Representative Bethell. The motion carried.

**Hearing on HB 2457 - Senior Pharmacy Assistance Program.**

Audrey Nogle, Legislative Research Department, explained that **HB 2457** adjusted the requirements for the Senior Pharmacy Assistance Program which is funded from the senior services fund. This legislation would allow the agency to access additional federal funds through a waiver. The agency would be able to access an additional \$1.8 million, making the program total about \$4 million. Eligibility requirements would be adjusted from age 67 to 65; income eligibility would be increased from 150% to 200% of poverty; an exception would be added for financial hardship and a requirement that the client cannot cancel insurance for pharmacy within six months of applying for this program. It also eliminates the limitation for certain maintenance drugs, the 30% co-pay and \$1,200 maximum payment. Responding to a question from the Committee, Ms. Nogle stated that there are no changes to the federal program at this time.

There were no proponents or opponents to come before the Committee.

The hearing on **HB 2457** was closed.

Representative Gatewood moved that SB268 be amended to delete the current provisions, the provisions of HB 2457 be inserted and that SB 268 be recommended for passage as amended. The motion was seconded by Representative Bethell. The motion carried.

The Chair asked the Committee to review the Committee minutes of January 24, January 28, February 6, February 11, February 12, February 13, February 17, February 18, February 19, February 20, February 21, February 24, March 13, March 14, March 17, March 18, 2003, for approval at the next meeting on May 1, 2003.

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be held on May 1, 2003.

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Melvin Neufeld, Chair