

## MINUTES OF THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Melvin Neufeld at 9:00 A.M. on March 17, 2005 in Room 514-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Flower- excused  
Representative Light- excused

Committee staff present:

Alan Conroy, Legislative Research Department  
J. G. Scott, Legislative Research Department  
Amy VanHouse, Legislative Research Department  
Reagan Cussimano, Legislative Research Department  
Debra Hollon, Legislative Research Department  
Susan Kannarr, Legislative Research Department  
Matt Spurgin, Legislative Research Department  
Robert Waller, Legislative Research Department  
Jim Wilson, Revisor of Statutes  
Mike Corrigan, Revisor of Statutes  
Nikki Feuerborn, Administrative Analyst  
Shirley Jepson, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Representative Dennis McKinney  
Representative Ray Merrick  
George Chandler, World War II Veteran from Pratt  
Jim Bertoglio, World War II Veteran from Medicine Lodge  
Jennie Chin, Executive Director of Kansas State Historical Society  
Robert R. Ulin, Colonel, US Army-Retired  
Tom Farr, District Commander of NE Kansas Dist #1, VFW

Others attending:

See attached list.

- Attachment 1 Fiscal Note on **HB 2338**
- Attachment 2 Testimony on **HB 2338** by Representative McKinney
- Attachment 3 Testimony on **HB 2338** by Jim Bertoglio
- Attachment 4 Testimony on **HB 2338** by Jennie Chinn
- Attachment 5 Testimony on **HB 2338** by Robert R. Ulin
- Attachment 6 Written testimony on **HB 2338** by Charles M. Yunker, Office of the Adjutant, The American Legion
- Attachment 7 Written testimony on **HB 2338** by Carl Fyler, Commander, American Ex-POW, Kansas Chapter
- Attachment 8 Written testimony on **HB 2338** by Vince Milum, Chairman of the Cold War Veterans Association
- Attachment 9 Budget Committee Report on **HB 2301**
- Attachment 10 Budget Committee Report on **SB 8**
- Attachment 11 Background Information on proposed legislation

**Hearing on HB 2518 - Kansas national guard, members on state active duty, political subdivision employers paying member health insurance expenses, reimbursement.**

Robert Waller, Legislative Research Department, explained that **HB 2518** would expand health insurance coverage for those members of the Kansas National Guard who are called to active duty for periods in excess of thirty days by providing reimbursement for the cost of privately purchased health insurance. The bill is a technical clean-up to legislation passed two years ago to address the problem that the adjutant general did not have the power to transfer funds from the agency to a political subdivision. **HB 2518** would allow the state

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finance council to appropriate funds from the state emergency fund to the Adjutant General for these reimbursements.

With no proponents or opponents to come before the Committee, Chair Neufeld closed the hearing on **HB 2518**.

Representative Feuerborn moved to recommend **HB 2518** favorable for passage. The motion was seconded by Representative Sharp. Motion carried.

**Hearing on HB 2338 - Kansas veterans' experience history project grant awards authorized, appropriations for such project.**

Matt Spurgin, Legislative Research Department, explained that **HB 2338** would provide funding to the Kansas Historical Society to establish a competitive grant program to record the experiences of World War II veterans from Kansas. The legislation would be effective for FY 2006 and FY 2007. The bill would provide grants to non-profit organizations, state educational institutions, private colleges, and other local, municipal, or state historical agencies for development and implementation of the program. A fiscal note on **HB 2338** was distributed to the Committee (Attachment 1).

Representative Dennis McKinney, co-sponsor of the legislation, presented testimony in support of **HB 2338** (Attachment 2). Representative McKinney indicated with passage of the legislation, the guidelines for the program will be established.

Representative Ray Merrick, co-sponsor of the legislation, testified in support of **HB 2338**.

Testimony in support of **HB 2338** was given by:

- George Chandler, World War II veteran from Pratt
- Jim Bertoglio, World War II veteran from Medicine Lodge (Attachment 3)
- Jennie Chinn, Executive Director, Kansas State Historical Society (Attachment 4)
- Robert R. Ulin, Colonel, US Army-Retired (Attachment 5)

Tom Farr, District Commander of NE Kansas District No. 1, Veterans of Foreign Wars, spoke in support of **HB 2338**, presenting the Committee with details of his experiences during World War II.

Written testimony in support of **HB 2338** was distributed to the Committee from:

- Charles M. Yunker, Office of the Adjutant, The American Legion (Attachment 6)
- Carl Fyler, Commander, American Ex-POW, Kansas Chapter (Attachment 7)
- Vince Milum, Chairman of the Cold War Veterans Association (Attachment 8)

Chair Neufeld closed the hearing on **HB 2338**.

**Discussion and Action on HB 2301 - Creating the Senator Stan Clark pregnancy maintenance initiative program.**

Representative Landwehr, Chair of the Social Services Budget Committee, presented the Budget Committee recommendation on **HB 2301** and moved for the adoption of the Budget Committee report to recommend **HB 2301** favorable for passage as amended (Attachment 9). The motion was seconded by Representative Bethell. Motion carried.

Representative Sharp moved for a substitute motion to amend the Budget Committee report by striking Section 2 from **HB 2301**. The motion was seconded by Representative Feuerborn. Motion failed.

**Discussion and Action on SB 8 - Research foundation capital improvement projects; limitation on amount.**

Representative Hutchins, Chair of the Education Budget Committee, presented the Budget Committee recommendation on **SB 8** and moved for the adoption of the Budget Committee report to recommend **SB 8**

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favorable for passage on the consent calendar (Attachment 10). The motion was seconded by Representative Feuerborn. Motion carried.

Representative Weber moved to introduce legislation concerning signatures on petitions (Attachment 11). The motion was seconded by Representative Gatewood. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m. The next meeting of the Committee will be held at 9:00 a.m. on March 18, 2005.

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Melvin Neufeld, Chair