

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson David Adkins at 9:10 a.m. on February 2, 2000 in Room 514-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: All present

Committee staff present: Leah Robinson, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Robert Waller, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Rae Ann Davis, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Jim Wilson, Revisor of Statutes Office  
Mike Corrigan, Revisor of Statutes Office  
Dave Stallings, Assistant to the Chairman  
Mary Shaw, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:  
Gary Sherrer, Lieutenant Governor/Secretary of the Department of Commerce and Housing  
Dr. Dan Bernardo, Department of Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University  
John Howard, International Grains Program, Kansas State University  
Dr. Janice Swanson, International Meat and Livestock Program, Kansas State University  
David Frey, Administrator, Kansas Wheat Commission

Others attending: See attached list.

Chairman Adkins opened the meeting with information regarding the Committee Seating Chart that was distributed. He thought it beneficial to have this information available for guests that attend the meetings listing who the committee members are and where they are from. He asked the Committee to review them for corrections and let his office know if there are any changes. They will be available on the table outside the committee room.

The Chairman mentioned that the Committee will hear a briefing on a topic that arose out of discussions at the Council of State Governments Annual meeting in Quebec City, Canada, during the first part of December concerning international trade policy. The Chairman felt it would be interesting to learn more about how the State of Kansas positions our products and how trade is encouraged in general considering the relationship many states have with Canadian provinces and that Canada represents the United State's largest trading partner.

### **Overview of Kansas International Trade Policy**

Chairman Adkins welcomed the Lieutenant Governor of the State of Kansas and the Secretary of the Department of Commerce and Housing, Gary Sherrer. Lieutenant Governor Sherrer mentioned that the day was Job Shadowing Day all over the state when students have a chance to shadow workers. He introduced his shadow for the day, Alan Wong, a student at Washburn Rural High School in Topeka.

Lieutenant Governor Sherrer mentioned under the topic, agency goals, that the mission of the Trade Division is to increase international sales of Kansas goods and services and to increase the number of international corporations located in Kansas. He also noted that the ultimate objective of the Trade Division is to increase the wealth of Kansans through job creation, payroll enhancements and improving sales of goods and services. Lieutenant Governor Sherrer explained that the Agriculture Products Development Division also partners with the Trade Division because they want to support activities that will increase the economic opportunity of producers. He also felt that Export Counseling is very important.

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Lieutenant Governor Sherrer presented information regarding the following topics:

- Most effective marketing methods for Kansas products
- The role of Kansas overseas offices
- Examples of current trade initiatives
- Kansas trade shows/missions
- Partnerships
- How can Kansas be a bigger player in the international marketplace?
- Examples of other states initiatives
- International success in Kansas

Lieutenant Governor Sherrer mentioned that Governor Graves will be going to Japan to the LUJACK Conference which is held in Japan one year and then held in the United States. In the year 2001 the conference will be held in Wichita, Kansas. He said there might be approximately 200 - 300 top Japanese business professionals coming to Kansas.

In closing, Lieutenant Governor Sherrer mentioned that there may have been some misunderstanding about the day to day work and where the focus is in state trade policy. The focus of the trade activities in the Department of Commerce and Housing is in the field with as many Kansas companies, small and large, rural and urban, to see if the department can prepare them to take advantage of global markets. Global markets are going to open up more and more. International trade is complex, it is difficult, and there are rules and regulations, tariffs, quotas and many ways that governments discourage international trade in Kansas, but it is growing and working. He is very pleased with the direction in which they are going and activities they are doing ([Attachment 1](#)). Committee questions and discussion followed. Chairman Adkins thanked Lieutenant Governor for appearing before the Committee.

Chairman Adkins welcomed Dr. Dan Bernardo, Department of Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University. Dr. Bernardo began the K-State presentation with a review of some of the agricultural statistics surrounding international trade and some of the activities of the Department of Agricultural Economics, particularly concerning international trade research issues.

Dr. Bernardo noted the following information from his presentation:

- Kansas agricultural exports in 1998 were estimated at \$2.86 billion.
- 1998 agricultural exports represented approximately 37 percent of total receipts from farm marketings.
- Kansas consistently ranks 6<sup>th</sup> among U.S. states in value of agricultural exports.

Dr. Bernardo mentioned that the Department of Agricultural Economics supports international trade development through both research and outreach programs. The objective of the programs is to provide educational outcomes which facilitate access to international markets for Kansas agricultural commodities and value-added products. Dr. Bernardo also reviewed various recently completed and on-going research and outreach programs listed in his handout ([Attachment 2](#)).

Chairman Adkins welcomed Mr. John Howard, Program Administrator, International Grains Program, Department of Grain Science & Industry, Kansas State University. Mr. Howard mentioned that in the spring of 1978 the Kansas Legislature approved \$200,000 of general use funds to create the International Grains Program (IGP) making it the first professional institute in the United States to provide technical training in support of market development activities for corn, grain sorghum, soybeans and wheat. He mentioned that the idea for the IGP came from a need to educate international commodity buyers, both private and government, on the details of the United States marketing system in support of our national commodity organizations and especially Kansas farmers ([Attachment 3](#)). An Appendix to his testimony was distributed ([Attachment 4](#)).

Chairman Adkins welcomed Dr. Janice Swanson, International Meat and Livestock Program, Kansas State University. Dr. Swanson mentioned that the International Meat and Livestock Program (IMLP) was established with funds appropriated by the State Legislature in 1985. She noted that the mission of the IMLP is two-fold. First they provide training and education that is congruent with the mission statement of Kansas State University and also with the idea of designing courses and workshops that will meet the

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personal objectives of the international clientele that request their services. They also facilitate the promotion of Kansas agricultural products through tourist seminars and visitations. Some participants are from private industry, other countries and many courses and workshops are facilitated through various state agencies as well as the United States Government. (Attachment 5)

Dr. Bernardo, Mr. Howard and Dr. Swanson stood for Committee questions and discussion. Chairman Adkins thanked them for appearing before the Committee.

Chairman Adkins welcomed Mr. David Frey, Administrator, Kansas Wheat Commission. Mr. Frey noted that the largest buyer of Kansas wheat from the United States in 1999 was the United States Government for Food Aid. This is something that needs to be made aware of and is an extremely important market not only for wheat, but also flour from Kansas. He mentioned that Kansas is the largest wheat and flour producing state in the nation, and if Kansas was a country, it would be the 13<sup>th</sup> largest wheat producing country in the world (Attachment 6).

Chairman Adkins thanked Mr. Frey for appearing before the Committee.

### **Bill Introductions**

A motion was made by Representative Landwehr, and seconded by Representative Pottorff, for four Committee bills, the first three recommended by the Childrens' Issues Committee over the interim that relate to foster care and adoption. One bill deals with confidentiality issues concerning records that are being shared from one agency to another; the second bill deals with the children in need of care regarding tax credits which was introduced last year; and a concurrent resolution requesting that local boards of education review their truancy policies and procedures to establish a more uniform statewide policy regarding truancy. Regarding the fourth bill, Representative Landwehr explained that it is a bill that she is introducing herself establishing policy principles for children in need of care in Kansas somewhat like a foster care childrens' bill of rights. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Representative Adkins, and seconded by Representative Neufeld, to authorize the introduction of the nonjudicial salary compensation program as well as a request from the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks to introduce bills that were previously introduced in the Senate for an act creating a wildlife and parks non-restricted fund and an act authorizing the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks to exceed expenditure limitations. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for February 3, 2000.