

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jene Vickrey at 3:30 P.M. on March 9, 2006 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Jim Yonally- excused

Committee staff present:

Mike Heim, Legislative Research Department
Martha Dorsey, Legislative Research Department
Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes Office
Maureen Stinson, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Rep. Flaharty
Andree Sisco
Tom Kersen, City of Wichita
Glen Wiltse, Sedgwick County Code Enforcement
David Woodard, Kansas National Contractors Association, Inc.
Chris Butts
Richard Kretchmar, Independent Electrical Contractors Association
James Davis

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairman Vickrey opened the hearing on:

SB 497 **Improvement districts; qualification of directors**

Rep. Flaharty testified in support of the bill (Attachment 1). She explained that every other elected office requires residency.

Andree Sisco, resident of Wichita, testified in support of the bill (Attachment 2). She explained that the proposed legislation would require that Directors of Improvement District Boards live or own property within the Improvement District that they seek to represent.

Chairman Vickrey closed the hearing on **SB 497**.

SB 497 **Improvement districts; qualification of directors**

Rep. Lane made a motion for the favorable passage of SB 497 and asked that it be placed on the Consent Calendar. Rep. Faust-Goudeau seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SB 498 **Requiring continuing education for certain contractors licensed by cities and counties**

Tom Kersen, Office of Central Inspection, City of Wichita, testified in support of the bill (Attachment 3). He said the bill is necessary to assure the continued and improved safety of all buildings or structures in which Kansas live, work, play, assemble, or congregate.

Glen Wiltse, Department of Code Enforcement, Sedgwick County, testified in support of the bill (Attachment 4). He said the proposed changes in the bill would provide a necessary requirement of work experience prior to taking an examination and also require continuing education.

David Woodard, Kansas National Contractors Association, Inc., testified in support of the bill (Attachment 5). He said establishing a minimum field experience tenure before electrical examinations may be administered, coupled with continuous education requirements before electrical licensing renewal can be obtained, ensures that individuals working in the electrical construction industry possess all the expertise and

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experience to fully understand the intricacies of the electrical construction industry.

Chris Butts, resident of Wichita, testified in support of the bill (Attachment 6). He said that passage of the bill is a step in the right direction to ensure the public that a qualified person would perform electrical installation in our State.

Richard Kretchmar, Independent Electrical Contractors Association, testified in support of the bill (Attachment 7). He said additional requirements will increase the professionalism of the industry and will, in turn, maintain a safe working environment on the job site, and in the homes and businesses of Kansas.

Sen. Mike Petersen submitted written testimony in support of the bill (Attachment 8).

Written testimony in support of the bill was submitted by Jeff Read (Attachment 9).

Written testimony in support of the bill was submitted by James Davis (Attachment 10).

Chairman Vickrey closed the hearing on **SB 498**.

SB 498 **Requiring continuing education for certain contractors licensed by cities and counties**

Rep. Sawyer made a motion to amend SB 498 and to pass the bill favorably out of committee. His suggested amendment is to clarify that the continuing education requirement would apply to all cities grants electricians' licenses, and not just those granting annual licenses. Rep. Lane seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Rep. Sharp made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 7, 2006 meeting. Rep. M. Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Chairman Vickrey adjourned the meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 14, 2006.