

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMERCE AND LABOR COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steve Brunk at 9:01 a.m. on February 9, 2009, in Room 784 of the Docking State Office Building.

All members were present except:

Representative Louis Ruiz- excused

Committee staff present:

Renaë Jefferies, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Dennis Hodgins, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Stephen Bainum, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Jeff Barnes, Kansas Home Inspection Registration Board
Kerry D. Parham, Kansas Association of Real Estate Inspectors
Mary Diane Minear, Secretary of State Office
John Lyle, Professional Engineering Inspections Inc
Dan Bowers, Holmes Inspection Co.

Others attending:

See attached list.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steve Brunk at 9:01 a.m. The Chairman opened the hearing on **HB 2260 - Amendments to the Kansas home inspectors professional competence and financial responsibility act.**

Renaë Jefferies explained the changes being made to the bill. (Attachment 1).

Jeff Barnes, Kansas Home Inspection Registration Board testified as a proponent of **HB 2260** (Attachment 2). He gave a line by line explanation of the changes the Board was requesting.

Representative Bethell asked about the location of the office. Mr. Barnes indicated that it was in his home since the Board has no income yet.

Representative Pottorff asked how information would get out to people. Jeff indicated that it would be listed on the board's website.

Representative Worley asked how many members they were estimated to have a year from now. Jeff said they estimated that the initial registration would be 150 and within a year approximately 200 inspectors listed.

Representative Bethell asked what the registration fee was. Jeff said the maximum fee is \$200 and the renewal fee might be lowered.

Representative Quigley asked for an explanation of the finger printing requirement. Jeff said that they felt that they needed it to find out if there was a problem with an applicant's background.

Kerry D. Parham, Kansas Association of Real Estate Inspectors appeared as a proponent of **HB 2260** (Attachment 3). He presented several areas that they feel should be amended in the bill.

Representative Pottorff asked who approves what would qualify as continuing education. Jeff said that the Board would accept whatever the national associations accepted.

John Lyle, Professional Engineering Inspections Inc gave verbal only testimon in support of **HB 2260**. His only concern was that Engineers not lose the exemption they had in the bill.

Mary Diane Minear, Secretary of State Office appeared as a proponent of **HB 2260** (Attachment 4). The Secretary of State was only concerned that the Secretary of State be removed as custodian of the records of the Board.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the House Commerce And Labor Committee at 9:01 a.m. on February 9, 2009, in Room 784 of the Docking State Office Building.

Representative Brunk asked if the Secretary of State maintained files for any other organizations. Diane replied that they do not. The only records they maintain are their own.

Dan Bowers, Holmes Inspection Co. appeared as an opponent to **HB 2260**. He gave verbal testimony only. He objected to the background investigations saying that they have never had a problem with that in his thirty year experience. With the economic downturn some inspectors will be pushed out of the business or they will do inspections illegally. He also agreed that there were times when an assistant was needed who could not give advice to the home owner.

The Chairman closed the hearing on **HB 2260** and adjourned the Committee.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 10, 2009.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:33 a.m.