

MINUTES OF THE SENATE ETHICS AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Vicki Schmidt at 9:30 a.m. on January 21, 2010, in Room 144-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator Pat Apple- excused

Committee staff present:

Sean Ostrow, Office of the Revisor of Statutes

Martha Dorsey, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Reed Holwegner, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Carolyn Long, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Carol Williams, Director, Governmental Ethics Commission

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairwoman Vicki Schmidt asked if Senator Pyle would like to introduce his guests. The Senator introduced Macy Wallisch and Conner Hampton, both from Holton.

The Chair introduced Carol Williams, Director, Governmental Ethics Commission. Ms. Williams told the Committee that the Commission did not have any agenda or new legislation for this year. In looking back she discovered that all but one of the recommendations from the Commission since 2004 have since become law.

One piece of legislation was dramatically changed in a conference committee. The changing of the wording "occupation and employer" that mirrored the federal government language was changed to "occupation and industry" which has created confusion. They request "and industry" be stricken from current legislation. Motion to return 25-4148a to the original language was made by Senator Wagle, seconded by Senator Faust-Goudeau. Motion carried with Senator Reitz in opposition. The only other recommendation deals with the statement of substantial interest (SSI) filed by university professors whose thresholds exceed \$50,000.00. This legislation requires the university to be the responsible entity for the filing of the SSI by their members. Since this legislation will expire on July 1, 2010 they would like to see the sunset removed. Motion by Senator Wagle, seconded by Senator Huntington. Motion carried.

In the monthly meeting of the Commission, the regulation concerning the confidentiality of a complaint and the respondent will no longer remain confidential effective February 12, 2010.

The Chair thanked Ms. Williams for appearing before the committee.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 27, 2010.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:06 a.m.