

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON KPERS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chair Sharon Schwartz at 8:05 a.m. on March 8, 2010, in Room 159-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except.

Representative Robert Olson, Absent

Representative Jeff Whitham, Absent

Committee staff present:

Kristen Kellems, Office of the Revisor of Statutes

Gordon Self, Office of the Revisor of Statutes

Julian Efird, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Carol Bertram, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Jerry Sloan, Judicial Branch

Glenn Deck, Executive Director, Kansas Public Employees Retirement System (KPERS)

Others attending:

See attached list.

Julian Efird, Legislative Research Department, briefed the Committee on **SB 146**. He said this bill is very similar to **HB 2716**; however, it has a greater fiscal impact because it requires a current payment to KPERS of the employee and employer contributions if the employee is furloughed. He distributed a handout which compared **SB 146**, **HB 2716**, and the Prior Law concerning furloughs (Attachment #1). The handout explained the purpose, administration and the fiscal impact of each legislation.

Questions and answers concerning furloughs, sunset laws and KPERS payments followed.

Chair Schwartz opened the hearing on **SB 146 - Kansas public employees retirement system; computation of benefits when rate of computation is reduced or placed on furlough; removing sunset provision.**

Jerry Sloan on behalf of the Judicial Branch appeared before the Committee in support of **SB 146**. He presented background information as to why **SB 146** is an important bill to pass at this time and stated the bill addresses issues employees are facing-- furloughs and salary reductions have a great impact on employees. He noted the Judicial Branch would have the largest number of individuals who would be impacted by **HB 2222**, and encouraged the Committee to pass a bill concerning furloughs and salary reductions.

Questions and answers followed.

Chair Schwartz informed the Committee that Secretary Roger Werholtz, Kansas Department of Corrections, told her he would support **HB 146** if it had an amendment in Section 1 having to do with the effective date of the bill; namely, making it retroactive to January 1, 2010.

Glenn Deck, Executive Director, Kansas Public Employees Retirement System (KPERS), appeared before the Committee to stand for questions on how **SB 146** may impact KPERS. He reviewed the calculations on how retirement for employees would be calculated, and explained why he thought a sunset clause to the bill would be wise.

Questions and answers followed.

There being no further conferees to testify, Chair Schwartz closed the hearing on **SB 146**.

Chair Schwartz recognized Representative Proehl who introduced Alexandra Kunde, a foreign exchange student from Berlin, Germany, who is shadowing Representative Proehl for the day.

Chair Schwartz appointed a subcommittee consisting of Representative Proehl, Chair, and Representatives Flaharty and Carlson. She asked that they report back to the Committee at its next meeting with recommendations in regard to the issues discussed in today's meeting on **SB 146**.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the House Select Committee on KPERS Committee at On Call on March 8, 2010, in Room of the Capitol.

The Chair asked Gordon Self, Office of the Revisor of Statutes, to explain the Committee's new bill **HB 2730** which will be discussed at the next meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 12, 2010.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 a.m.

Representative Sharon Schwartz, Chair