

FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

February 27, 1969

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, and Rep. Coldsnow appeared before the Committee to discuss H.B. 1363. Mr. Coldsnow explained that there was such a bill last year but that it was amended and that through error the title was not amended to conform and so the bill was lost. He explained that this bill deals strictly with Sedgwick County insofar as Juvenile Court facilities are concerned; that the Probate Judge, Mr. Owens, who was present, agreed with and asked for this bill. Further, he stated that the County Attorney had called to inquire several times about this, and that the Commissioners are in accord with this proposal.

Rep. Ossmann appeared to discuss H.B. 1374, stating that this bill would bring the architects into conformity with the law governing civil engineers. He introduced some practicing architects, George Eichols, Floyd Wilkenbarger, Ken Miller, Dick Starr, Ray Coolidge and Ken Miller who is a member and committeeman on the National Council of Architects Registration Board, and Howard Blanchard who is President. He stated this is a national organization and it is quite an honor for a state to be so represented. He then introduced John Wilkinson who is attorney for the Architects Board, and Mr. Wilkinson discussed the bill section by section.

Mr. Wilkinson stated that the proposal spells out the requirements, education, training, etc.; that there has been some difficulty with individuals passing themselves off as architects by using gimmick phrases to fool the public. He stated that there are exclusions for private homes and buildings where the total cost does not exceed \$30,000; that the building codes are the same as mentioned in the engineers bill. The bill asks for \$25.00 per diem and reimbursement for travel and administrative expenses for members of the Board. He stated that the section concerning powers of the Board are copied from the engineers bill, including reprimand or other discipline or revocation of licenses. There is also a penalty section setting out that the county attorney or attorney general can prosecute.

Members of the Committee expressed concern about the exclusion and it was agreed by Ken Miller and Mr. Wilkinson that perhaps the exclusion for private buildings is not spelled out correctly and should be rewritten. Upon questions, Mr. Wilkinson explained that the Governor appoints the Board--five members with 4 year terms. It was determined that no hearings on alleged mal-practice had been held in the past year, nor for many years. Several members expressed concern about the exclusions, the right of appeal, and the restrictions on personal buildings;

and Mr. Wilkinson explained that it was always a problem when you are working with interpretations.

Mr. Ossman explained that the difficulty was with groups that were coming in and building public buildings, without local architectural supervision; using stock plans for certain types of buildings which did not necessarily meet the Board of Health and other requirements and that the public was being hoodwinked in many instances and they were having to spend money they hadn't planned on to bring the buildings up to the standards that were required; that this could be eliminated by having a local architect to look these plans over and put their stamp of approval on them and then supervise the building.

Mr. Headrick expressed concern about the Constitutional premise in some instances under this proposal. It was agreed by members of the architecture group that perhaps the bill should be reworked and then presented to the committee again.

Mr. Woodward urged that some thought be given to the building contractors in small towns, as Mr. Ossmann agreed that this would limit them. Mr. Miller agreed this should not have been in the bill. Mr. McCray inquired how many engineers there are versus the number of architects and Mr. Ossman stated that there are about 4900 engineers and about 500 actively engaged architects.

The meeting was adjourned.