

FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

April 3, 1969

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman who introduced Senator Gaar to discuss SB 49. Senator Gaar explained that this bill had been considered by a sub-committee of which Senator Pomeroy was chairman, and thereupon introduced Senator Pomeroy to discuss this bill. He states this bill amends the new law and is partly clean-up; that on page two the law is expanded to include municipal positions, and Section 2 is new and provides that candidates must make disclosure at the time of filing, which puts them on equal status with incumbents. Section 3 provides that the heads of both parties must file disclosure statements, and sub-section (b) provides that legislative agents must file an account of total funds received and expended for the purpose of lobbying. He stated that the sub-committee heard much testimony and decided that detailed accounts were not necessary--just total receipts and disbursements. Section 4 is new and attempts to get uniformity in the types of statements filed. Section 5 has some new language dealing with fraud and Section 6 provides penalties for failure to file and for fraud. He explained that SCR 25 accompanies this bill and deals with a study but that it has nothing to do with this bill and they hoped both would be recommended favorably. There were numerous questions from members of the committee and in answer to query as to why this kind of legislation is necessary Senator Gaar explained that it is in the public interest; that the public has a right to know how much is being spent to influence legislation.

Ernie Mosher from the Kansas League of Municipalities appeared before the committee to discuss SB 115 and to present proposed amendments. He explained that this bill authorizes councils of governments so that local bodies can band together in a loose organization and take advantage of certain monies and grants that are available for planning purposes. Senator Gaar agreed that these proposed amendments are agreeable with him. Mr. Mosher explained that his proposed amendments (see exhibits) simply broadens the definitions in the bill. Rep. Turner urged that this is another case where the state would be abdicating its authority to the federal government. Senator Gaar explained that these funds are available and they are going some place and Kansas had just as well have it as Connecticut or some other state; that Rep. Turner is misconstruing the intent of the bill.

Senator Gaar explained that SB 113 is a simple amendment to the private club act and removes the requirements for temporary memberships for guests in the hotels and motels. Senator Strahan appeared in support of the bill, stating that this is really not a "liquor bill" but rather deals with enforcement.

Senator Gaar proceeded to discuss SB 278, explaining that this was passed by the Local And State Affairs Committee of the Senate and deals with Governor appointees; that at the present time where appointees do not have to be confirmed there are no qualifications and therefore no way to remove them even if they are not qualified or if they move outside the jurisdictional area after their appointment.

SCR 25 was discussed further by Senator Gaar, and he explained that this is something of an afterthought although it is not intended to take the place of SB 49; that it relates only to the governor's cabinet insofar as conflicts are concerned; that no one is suggesting there is anything wrong with these non-statutory assistants but that it might be relevant for them to file conflict of interest statements also.

The meeting was adjourned.