	Approved3	Date
MINUTES OF THE <u>House</u> COMMITTEE ON	Elections	
The meeting was called to order byRepresentative T	om Sawyer Chairperson	at
9:15 a.m./p.m. on Wednesday, March 6th	, 19 <u>9</u> 1 in room	521-S of the Capitol.
All members were present except:		

## Committee staff present:

Pat Mah, Research Arden Ensley, Revisor Ellie Luthye, Committee Secretary

### Conferees appearing before the committee:

Representative Ed McKechnie
Ron Thornburgh, Office of the Secretary of State

The House Elections Committee was called to order at 9:15 a.m. on Wednesday, March 6th by Chairman Tom Sawyer.

The Chair directed the attention of the committee to written testimony presented by the League of Women Voters on  $\underline{HB}$  2022. (Attachment la)

Chairman Sawyer next called for continuation of hearings on  $\underline{{\tt HB}\ 2174}$  and asked for Representative McKechnie to present his testimony.

Representative McKechnie offered an amendment to the bill by striking the words "public office" on line 4 of page 2 and inserting the words "state or county office". This language was encouraged by several County Clerks. (Attachment 1)

Ron Thornburgh, from the Office of the Secretary of State, presented testimony in opposition to  $\underline{HB}$  2174. He stated invalid registrations, duplicates and fraud would be of major concern to the security of the electoral system. (Attachment 2)

Following questions by the committee, hearings were closed on all election bills, HB 2022, HB 2174, HB 2291, HB 2292, and HB 2326.

Hearings were then opened on  $\underline{\text{HB }2325}$ , concerning blank lines for write-in votes for electors of presidential candidates.

The Chair called on Ron Thornburgh, Secretary of State's office, to present his testimony in support of  $\underline{\text{HB }2325}$ . The Secretary of State, however, did have some concerns about the funding of the project, and would request postponing implementation of the primary until 1996 if adequate funding was not available. (Attachment 3)

Following questions by the committee, the chair declared hearings closed on  $\underline{\scriptsize{\mbox{HB 2325.}}}$ 

The Chair then called for final action on <u>HB 2325</u>. <u>Representative Jones made a motion</u> that HB 2325 be passed as amended. This was seconded by Representative Wells.

Representative Shallenburger made a substitute motion that sections 3 and 4 be stricken, and return the bill back to its original form, seconded by Representative McKechnie. The substitute motion was put to a vote and was passed on a 14-3 vote. Representative Cates wished his "no" vote to be recorded.

Representative Shallenburger made a motion to table HB 2325 until January 25, 1992, seconded by Representative Scott. Following discussion of this motion a vote was called for and the motion failed.

#### CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES	OF THE	House	COMMITTE	E ON	Election	S	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	;
room	521, Statehouse,	at <u>9:1</u>	<u>5</u> <u>a.m./</u> p.m.	on	Wednesday,	March 6	·	19 <u>91</u> .

Representative Jones made a motion that HB 2325 be passed as amended, seconded by Representative Macy and the motion carried.

 $\underline{\text{HB}}$  2070, the mail ballot election bill, was next presented for discussion and final action.

Representative McKechnie offered an amendment to insert, on line 18, following "shall be held", "within 90 days of requested date". This was seconded by Representative Macy.

There were some questions from the committee, and the Secretary of State's office, if this wording would be correct. Representative McKechnie made a conceptural motion that would allow the Revisor, Arden Ensley, and the Secretary of State's office to work out the exact wording, however the intent of the amendment would remain the same. This was seconded by Representative Love and the motion carried. Representative McKechnie made a motion to pass HB 2070 as amended, seconded by Representative Jones and the motion carried.

The Chair called for discussion and final action on <u>HB 2022</u>, concerning application for voter registration as part of application for drivers' licenses. The Office of the <u>Secretary of State submitted an amendment to this bill by striking subsection</u> (2), line 29, and subsection (c), line 40; adding language to the new subsection (d), line 3 on page 2 and adding a date to Sec. 2, line 7. (Attachment 4)

Representative Shallenburger made a motion to amend HB 2022 as stated, seconded by Representative Parkinson.

Representative Love offered an amendment that would change the date of inception to July 1, 1992 instead of January 1, 1993. This was seconded by Representative McKechnie. Following discussion by the committee Representative Love withdrew his motion.

Representative Baker made a conceptural motion that a statement should be printed at the bottom of the registration card that fraudulently voting was a Class A misdemeanor with the penalty not to exceed 1 year in jail and/or a fine not to exceed \$2,500. This was seconded by Representative Jones and the motion passed.

Representative Love made a motion that HB 2022 be passed as amended, seconded by Representative McKechnie.

Representative King made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Representative Baker. A vote was called for and the motion failed.

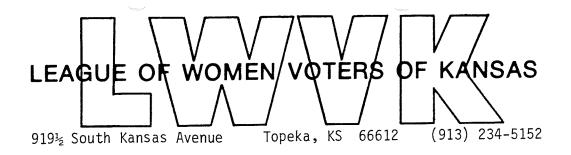
A motion was made by Representative Jones to call for the question, seconded by Representative McKechnie and the motion carried.

A vote was taken on the motion by Representative Love to pass HB 2022 as amended and the motion carried. Representative Shallenburger requested his "yes" vote be recorded.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:35 a.m.

The next meeting of the House Elections Committee will be on Thursday, March 7th, 1991 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 521-S.

COMMITTEE: Elections	DATE: 3-6-	-91
		1
NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	ADDRESS	COMPANY/ORGANIZATION
Michael Woolf	Topeka	CC/153
Un Dellerger	Overland Tack	LWUK
Smola Kehreppel	Oswego Kabette	Co Clerk
Carol Starish	Ottava Co	Clerk
Repecca Bossemeyer	TOPEKA	505
Kon Thornburg C	11	И
Ilene Colhert	manhettan	Country Clark Biley Co.
Linda Q. Scheen	Leavenunth	County Clerk Riley Co.
DAN BRUNETTI	CIRARD	11 4
John Jama	topelsa	AP (Truth, Justice + the Cemerica
0		



March 5, 1991

STATEMENT TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS IN SUPPORT OF HB 2022.

Representative Tom Sawyer, Chairman:

I am very sorry that I missed the hearing on  $\underline{\mathsf{HB}}$  2022. I thought it was to be held March 7th.

The League strongly supports providing applications to register to vote while applying for a driver's license.

The League of Women Voters of Kansas conducted a citizen survey of over 4,500 Kansans in the fall of 1989. Regional meetings were held at the conclusion of the survey as well as a statewide conference at K.U. on "Why Don't Americans Vote?". All of the participants said over and over that "motor voter" was a great idea whose time had come.

Of all of the barriers to voting as perceived by citizens, changing the way Kansans register to vote would eliminate one of them. It can easily be done, and then we can turn our attention to some of the more difficult issues such as real campaign finance reform and economic and geographic voting disparity.

The League urges your quick consideration of HB 2022.

Thank you very much.

Ann Hebberger, Lobbyist

League of Women Voters of Kansas

STATE OF KANSAS

ED McKECHNIE

REPRESENTATIVE, THIRD DISTRICT 224 W. JEFFERSON PITTSBURG, KANSAS 66762 (316) 231-1669

> ROOM 281-W STATEHOUSE TOPEKA, KS 66612

> > House Bill 2174

place of residence.

Testimony of Rep. Ed McKechnie To the House Elections Committee



TOPEKA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

March 5, 1991

#### ASSISTANT MAJORITY WHIP

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

VICE CHAIRMAN: COMPUTERS, COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY

MEMBER: ELECTIONS
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
TRANSPORTATION

PENSIONS, INVESTMENTS AND BENEFITS

Thank you Mr. Chairman and members of the committee for allowing me the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill

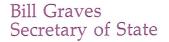
Let me review the current law. First, an application for registration must be signed by the individual and that form delivered to the County Election Officer. The second step is for the Election Officer to then send the voter an application card. The third step is for the individual to return the card to the election officer. Finally the fourth step is for the election officer to return the approved voter registration card to the individual.

2174, an act which would ease the registration of voters at their

H.B. 2174 eases that process by allowing the Election Officer to appoint any person, and requiring the appointment of any qualified candidate in the county, as a deputy county election officer for the purpose of registering qualified voters at their place of residence only. This will streamline the process of registering voters at their place of residence by removing the requirement that an application be filled out and returned to the election officer.

The duly appointed person would merely have the perspective voter fill out the registration card at their home; return it to the election officer; and the election officer would then mail the approved voter registration card to the individual. Thereby easing the process and hopefully registering more voters.

Mr. Chairman I would encourage the committee to consider an amendment to the bill by striking the words "public office" on line 2 of page 2, and inserting the words "state or county office". This language was encouraged by several County Clerks.





2nd Floor, State Capitol Topeka, KS 66612-1594 (913) 296-2236

# STATE OF KANSAS

TESTIMONY OF RON THORNBURGH HOUSE ELECTIONS COMMITTEE MARCH 5, 1991

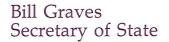
House Bill 2174

Thank you Mr. Chairman and members of the committee for the opportunity to appear before you today on behalf of Secretary of State Graves.

We are opposed to House Bill 2174. Door to door registration, whether by candidates or anyone else is not a safe way to register voters. Invalid registrations, duplicates and fraud would be of major concern to the security of the electoral system.

Voter registration, when conducted at a specific site, by individuals trained to work the site can be monitored and supervised by the county election officer.

Our current system of voter registration, which has expanded greatly in the past few years, is reaching more and more voters. We are trying to expand even more this year with motor voter and state agency based registration. We urge you to consider the other options before you this year.





2nd Floor, State Capitol Topeka, KS 66612-1594 (913) 296-2236

## STATE OF KANSAS

TESTIMONY OF RON THORNBURGH HOUSE ELECTIONS COMMITTEE MARCH 6, 1991

House Bill 2325 As Amended

Thank you Mr. Chairman and members of the committee for the opportunity to appear before you today on behalf of Secretary of State Graves.

This office has always supported a Presidential Preference Primary and will continue to support efforts to let the people of Kansas vote at a primary for the office of President. We do, however, have some concerns about the funding of the project. If those concerns are not met, we would agree to postpone implementation of the primary until 1996.

Under no circumstances should the state of Kansas pass the cost of a presidential primary onto county government. If the state cannot afford a primary, it should be postponed.