

Approved: Al Ramirez 3-22-93
Date

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Al Ramirez at 1:30 p.m. on March 15, 1993 in Room 531-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present: Julian Efird, Legislative Research Department

Fred Carman, Revisor of Statutes
Jackie Breymeyer, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: George D. Vega, Commissioner Mental Health and Retardation Services

Others attending: See attached list

HB 2010 - certification of security policemen for SRS

Chairman Ramirez called the meeting to order and called on George Vega, SRS to testify.

Mr. Vega distributed copies of his testimony (Attachment 1) and read what the provisions of the bill provide.

The act provides for security police officers to be classified state employees. They would be vested with peace, policy and law enforcement powers within the county in which the employing institution is located.

Security police officers would be required to enforce state law, rules and regulations of the secretary and policies applicable to the institution and city ordinances.

Certification by the Secretary of Corrections would be required with regard to training specified by the Department of Corrections and SRS before permanent appointment can be made.

Mr. Vega stated that during the past several months, SRS has met extensively with the Department of Corrections for the purpose of determining the training needs of the security police officers, the issue being whether the current training is adequate in meeting training needs and to modify that training as needed.

The result of such meetings resulted in a decision that the curriculum could be continued to be provided by Corrections and supplemented in specific areas by SRS. SRS could also provide specific training assistance.

Mr. Vega had a minor amendment, but realizes that it has already been incorporated in the bill. Page 2, line 8 states, 'Such certificate shall be awarded only following verification of completion of the training provided by both departments.'

Questions were asked of Mr. Vega with regard to arrest powers. The hours needed in enforcement training were discussed, as well as the training hours needed before an enforcement person can carry fire arms.

As there was no specific reference to training hours, staff read through the statute referred to in the bill, but found no mention of training hours in the statute.

A member mentioned that the power of arrest as shown in the bill is already law. Another member commented that if this is the case the officers must have had the training.

Why the bill goes into effect after its publication in the statue book was discussed.

Staff replied that this is the way it is usually done unless there is a specific need for a bill to be published in the Kansas Register.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION, Room 531-N
Statehouse, at 1:30 p.m. on March 15, 1993.

Discussion determined that the bill merited publication in the Kansas Register.

After further discussion, Senator Feleciano moved to amend **HB 2010** to place the bill's publication in the Kansas Register. Senator Reynolds gave a second to the motion. The motion carried.

Senator Feleciano recommended **HB 2010** favorably for passage as amended. Senator Reynolds gave a second to the motion. The motion carried.

Senator Feleciano will carry the bill.

The Chairman reminded the committee to return Tuesday and adjourned the meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 16, 1993.

GUEST LIST

COMMITTEE: Gov. Organization

DATE: 3/15/93

[illegible]

Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services

HOUSE BILL NO. 2010
Regarding the Training
of Security Police Officers
at SRS Institutions

Testimony Presented to
Governmental Organization Committee

March 15, 1993

Presented By:

George D. Vega, Commissioner
Mental Health and Retardation Services
On behalf of
Donna L. Whiteman
Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services
(913) 296-3773

SRS Mission Statement

"The Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services empowers individuals and families to achieve and sustain independence and to participate in the rights, responsibilities and benefits of full citizenship by creating conditions and opportunities for change, by advocating for human dignity and worth, and by providing care, safety and support in collaboration with others."

G.O. Comm.
Attachment 1
3/15/93

Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today concerning House Bill No. 2010, an Act concerning security police officers employed by the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services and their certification.

PROVISIONS: In summary,

- ... The Act provides for the security police officers to be classified state employees vested with peace, police and law enforcement powers within the county in which the employing institution is located.
- ... The Act requires the security police officers to enforce state laws, rules and regulations of the secretary and policies applicable to the institution and city ordinances.
- ... The Act requires certification by the Secretary of Corrections of training specified by the respective Secretaries of the Department of Corrections and the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services of security police officers before permanent appointment can be made.

DISCUSSION:

During the last several months, we have met extensively with the Department of Corrections in an effort to determine the training needs of the security police officers, to determine if the current training program is adequate in meeting those needs, and to modify the training as needed.

The meetings resulted in a determination the curriculum could be continued to be provided by the Department of Corrections and supplemented in specific areas by the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Further, it was determined SRS could provide some specific training assistance to the

Department of Corrections. It is our opinion our interdepartmental discussions are consistent with House Bill 2010, and we support the provisions of the Act. However, we would suggest a minor modification in wording. We would recommend inserting a phrase on Line 13, page 2 as follows:

"Such certificate shall be awarded following verification of completion of the training provided by both Departments and ... be effective...."

This change will avoid potential confusion about whether or not completion of the training has occurred and assigns responsibility to each department for the verification of completion of the pertinent portion of the training. It is our understanding the Department of Correction supports this, or a similar, change, and the departments share support of the Act.

Thank you.