

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lance Kinzer at 3:30 p.m. on March 17, 2011, in Room 346-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:  
Representative Bruchman

Committee staff present:  
Jill Wolters, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
Matt Sterling, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
Tamera Lawrence, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
Lauren Douglass, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Robert Allison-Gallimore, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Sue VonFeldt, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:  
Kevin Robertson, Kansas Dental Association  
Katy Nitcher, Douglas County District court Trustee  
Senator Mike Peterson, Wichita, Kansas  
Captain Jeffrey Easter, on behalf of Norman Williams, Wichita Police Chief  
Kyle Smith, Assistant Attorney General

Others attending:  
See attached list.

The Hearing on **SB 104 - Tort claims act; dentistry by charitable health care providers** was opened.

Jill Wolters, Staff Revisor, provided an overview of the bill for the committee.

Kevin Robertson, Executive Director of the Kansas Dental Association, appeared before the committee in support of the bill and stated it is simply clean up language for the Charitable Healthcare Provider Act. He stated the Kansas Dental Board had changed the location of the relevant definitions in its regulations and these statutory references need to be revised accordingly. ([Attachment 1](#))

There were no opponents.

The Hearing on **SB 104** was closed.

The Hearing on **SB 135 - Enacting the Kansas racketeer influenced and corrupt organization act (Kansas RICO act)** was opened.

Tamera Lawrence, Assistant Staff Revisor, provided an overview of the bill for the committee. ([Attachment 2](#))

Senator Mike Peterson, Wichita, Kansas, spoke before the committee in support of the bill. He stated this Act should give State law enforcement tools to pursue criminals who engage in a pattern of criminal activity. He also stated this legislation is modeled after Florida's Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization (RICO), which has been successful in reducing gang related crimes in the state of Florida. ([Attachment 3](#))

Captain Jeffrey Easter, on behalf of Norman Williams, Wichita Police Chief, addressed the committee in support of the bill. He stated this bill will allow them to more successfully prosecute those who have chosen to make crime their "career" and we must work to remove "career" criminals from the street who account for 95% of crime in our town and cities. ([Attachment 4](#))

Kyle Smith, Assistant Attorney General, appeared before the committee in support of this legislation and stated the federal government and numerous other states have utilized RICO statutes effectively against organized criminal enterprises. ([Attachment 5](#))

The following provided written only testimony in support of the bill:

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the House Judiciary Committee at 3:30 p.m. on March 17, 2011 in Room 346-S.

Ed Klumpp, Kansas Sheriff's Association, Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police, and Kansas Peace Officers Association (Attachment 6)

Major John F. Cosgrove, Assistant Bureau Director for the Criminal Investigation Bureau, Kansas City Kansas Police Department (Attachment 7)

There were no opponents.

The hearing on **SB 135** was closed.

The Hearing on **SB 160 - Child support; collection of child support payments** was opened.

Matt Sterling, Assistant Staff Revisor, provided an overview of the bill to the committee. (Attachment 8)

Katy Nitcher, Douglas County District Court Trustee, addressed the committee in support of the bill and stated it will assist in the enforcement of child support orders across Kansas. She explained there are two primary methods of enforcement of support orders in Kansas: court trustee offices and entities that contract with the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services (SRS) pursuant to a federally-based program referred to as "IV-D." The trustee stated there are currently some differences in the enforcement options available to court trustees versus those available to IV-D entities, and SB 160 would provide court trustees with the same tools as IV-D entities have. She stated the end result is not all children have the full complement of enforcement tools in Kansas and this bill addresses those inequities. (Attachment 9)

There were no opponents.

The Hearing on **SB 160** was closed.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 18, 2011.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.