

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Barbara P. Allen at 1:30 p.m. on March 13, 2003 in Room 245-N of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present: Ken Wilke, Revisor of Statues
Dennis Hodges, Legislative Research
Mike Heim, Legislative Research
Nancy Kirkwood, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Representative Mario Goico
Jerry Wells, Director of Government Affairs, Kansas
Insurance Department
Gene Hunter, Leawood Fire Marshal
Linda Schlachter, citizen of Leawood
Jeff Hudson, Fire Chief for City of Shawnee, Kansas
Marvin Rainey, Attorney from Shawnee, Kansas
Mike Vaille, District Manager, Cedar Shake & Shingle
Bureau
Ruben Hinojosa, citizen of Johnson County, Kansas

Others attending: See attached list.

Hearing on HB 2003 - Rural water supply districts; acquisition of system by adjoining municipality resumed.

Chairperson Allen opened the meeting directing members attention to the hearing on **HB 2003**, which was started during the Tuesday, March 11, 2003 meeting.

Chairperson Allen announced that up to 15 minutes would be devoted to questions and answers on **HB 2003**, since time did not allow this during the prior meeting. Senator Jackson opened the questioning. Don Ranking, Water Superintendent for City of Topeka, responded to questions, providing the members with information on the impacts of this bill. After questions subsided, Chairperson Allen asked for any additional inquiry. After no response, Chairperson Allen closed the hearing on **HB 2003**.

Hearing on HB 2023 - Restrictive covenants, wood shingles on roof

Chairperson Allen opened the hearing for **HB 2023**, instructing conferees that each side would be given 1.5 minutes for testimony; dividing that time by the number of conferees on each side. Chairperson Allen recognized Representative Mario Goico. Rep. Goico testified, supporting **HB 2023** (Attachment 1), explaining his own personal experience with wood shingles and fire.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT at on March 13, 2003 in Room 245-N of the Capitol.

Jerry Wells, Director of Governmental Affairs at the Kansas Insurance Department, provided testimony in favor of **HB 2023** (Attachment 2) in order to lessen homeowner insurance claims and for homeowner safety issues. Gene Hunter, Leawood Fire Marshal, testified on the dangers of wood roofs, urging passage of **HB 2023** (Attachment 3) and also stressing some recommendations for changes in the bill to close potential loop holes. Linda Schlachter, a citizen and homeowner in Lenexa, Kansas, testified to promote the passage of **HB 2023** (Attachment 4), with changes to include providing for an alternative of similar cost to wood.

Jeff Hudson, Fire Chief from Shawnee, Kansas appeared on behalf of the Kansas State Association of Fire Chiefs and the Johnson County Fire Chiefs Association to support of **HB 2023** (Attachment 5). Chairperson Allen announced the distribution of written testimony from: Karl McNorton, Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal (Attachment 6); Jeffery Bottenberg, Legislative Counsel for State Farm Insurance Companies (Attachment 7); and Jim Keating, President of Kansas State Firefighters Association (Attachment 8).

Chairperson Allen asked for anyone else who wished to speak in favor of **HB 2023** and Marvin Rainey, an attorney from Shawnee, Kansas, came forward and testified in favor of **HB 2023** (Attachment 9).

Chairperson Allen opened the floor for a couple questions and Representative Goico also distributed a balloon for **HB 2023** (Attachment 10) which would help with some of the concerns being mentioned. Chairperson Allen instructed the committee to hold questions at this point and once the opponents were done testifying there would be time for additional questions of both sides.

Mike Vailee, District Manager for the Cedar Shake and Shingle Bureau testified to clarify the facts on the various wood roofing materials and against **HB 2023** (Attachment 11), also asking that if there are safety concerns then the bill should be amended to specify the need for fire retardant wood to be required. Ruben Hinojosa, resident of Johnson County presented testimony in opposition of **HB 2023** (Attachment 12).

There being no others to testify on **HB 2023**, the Chair closed the hearing.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 17, 2003