

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Steve Morris at 10:00 a.m. on March 9, 2000, in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present: Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department
 Jill Wolters, Revisor of Statutes
 Nancy Kippes, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Representative Daniel Thimesch
Mary Jane Stattelman, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture
Mike Beam, Kansas Livestock Association
Leslie Kaufman, Assistant Director, Public Policy Division, Kansas Farm Bureau

Others attending: (See Attached)

Senator Huelskamp made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 8, 2000 meeting as corrected. Senator Stephens seconded. The motion carried.

Discussion on:

HB 2527 - concerning state moneys; providing for agricultural production loans

Revisor of Statutes Jill Wolters provided a review of Senator Huelskamp's proposal (Attachment 1). Discussion was had on several issues contained in the proposal.

Senator Huelskamp made a motion to amend his proposal into **HB 2527** with an amendment to add to the proposal that "the classification of substandard or doubtful for agriculture production loan shall be determined by the designated loan committee of the financial institution" in place of "debt-to-asset ratio of 40% or greater". **HB 2527** is to be modified to include language that was used when amended into SB 501 on the floor of the Senate. Senator Clark seconded. The motion carried.

Hearing on:

HCR 5050 - urging U.S. Congress to pass legislation allowing state-inspected meat and meat products to be shipped interstate.

Representative Thimesch testified in support of **HCR 5050** urging the committee to adopt this resolution.

Mary Jane Stattelman, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, testified in support of **HCR 5050** urging Congress to allow interstate shipment of state-inspected meat and poultry products (Attachment 2). She stated Kansas-inspected plants have proven to USDA reviewers that they can meet standards that are "equal to" the standards imposed upon federally inspected plants.

Mike Beam, Kansas Livestock Association, provided testimony in support of **HCR 5050** (Attachment 3).

Leslie Kaufman, Assistant Director, Public Policy Division, Kansas Farm Bureau, gave supportive testimony on **HCR 5050** inasmuch as state inspection programs meet or exceed federal inspection requirements (Attachment 4).

Senator Clark made a motion to pass favorably from committee **HCR 5050**. Senator Biggs seconded. The motion carried.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, Room 423-S of the Capitol,
10:00 a.m., on March 9, 2000.

Hearing on:

SCR 1628 - urging President Clinton to appoint a permanent agricultural ambassador in the United States trade representative's office.

Leslie Kaufman, Assistant Director, Public Policy Division, Kansas Farm Bureau, testified in support of **SCR 1628** (Attachment 4).

Senator Umberger made a motion to pass favorably SCR 1628. Senator Clark seconded and the motion carried.

Hearing on:

SCR 1626 - urging Congress to remove the executive branch's unilateral trade sanction authority on food and medicine

Leslie Kaufman, Assistant Director, Public Policy Division, Kansas Farm Bureau, testified in support of **SCR 1626** (Attachment 4).

Senator Umberger made a motion to pass favorably SCR 1626. Senator Clark seconded and the motion carried.

The next meeting will be March 14, 2000.