

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Senator David Corbin at 8:00 a.m. on February 9 in 245-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except: All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department
Mary Ann Torrence, Revisor of Statutes Office
Lila McClafin, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Al LeDoux, Director, Kansas Water Office
Chuck Stones, Sr. Vice President, Kansas Bankers Association
Joe Lieber, Executive Vice President, Kansas Cooperative Council
Rick Bean, Kansas Department Health and Environment, (KDHE)
Ron Hammerschmidt, Kansas Department Health and Environment, (KDHE)

Others attending:

See attached list.

With a motion from Senator Vratil and a second from Senator Stephens the minutes of February 2 and 3 were approved.

SB 500—Concerning employees of the Kansas Water Office.

A fiscal note was distributed.

Al LeDoux, Director, Kansas Water Office, supported **SB 500**, and he said the change is also supported by the governor.

The hearing was closed. Committee discussion followed. A motion was made by Senator Vratil that place **SB 500** be passed and, because the committee is of the opinion it is of a noncontroversial nature, it be placed on the consent calendar. The motion was seconded by Senator Goodwin. The motion carried.

The hearing was continued on **SB 501—Enacting the agricultural and specialty chemical remediation act.**

Chuck Stones spoke in favor of the concept as it allows a business to address environmental contamination without putting itself at risk (Attachment 1).

Joe Lieber supported the bill. He said current language of the bill does not charge the lending institutions interest, but if the committee believes interest should be charged the industry would be willing to accept this to insure that the loan provisions remain part of the bill. The proposed loan program would enhance the number of sites that would be able to be cleaned up (Attachment 2).

Rick L. Bean, Division of Environment, KDHE, supported establishment of a linked deposit loan program and a reimbursement program to qualifying parties proposed in **SB 501** as it would will assist and may encourage agri-businesses in addressing environmental contamination at their facilities (Attachment 3). Mr. Bean and Mr. Hammerschmidt responded to questions regarding current enforcement procedures, funding for cleanup and health risk associated with contaminants.

Written testimony supporting **SB 501** from Tom Bruno, McGill, Gaches & Associates was submitted (Attachment 4, and from Jere White, Kansas Grain Sorghum Producers Assn. & Kansas Corn Growers Assn. (Attachment 5).

CONTINUATION SHEET

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It was announced that Chris Wilson, Executive Director, Kansas Aerial Applicators Assn./Kansas Seed Industry Assn. would submitted written testimony supporting the measure at a later date.

Chairperson Corbin opened the discussion on **SB 405**–Procedure for release of land from water districts.

Senator Pugh offered a conceptual amendment to amend SB 405. The bill would be amended to include the language notification be made in writing with a copy of the petition and it be served upon the board of directors. They would have 30 days to act. If they deny the release it could be appealed to the board of county commissioners for final determine. Senator Goodwin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Senator Pugh moved that SB 405 as amended be recommended favorable for passage. Senator Tyson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:51 a.m. The next scheduled meeting is February 10, 2000.