

Approved: February 9, 2000
Date

MINUTES OF THE SENATE WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Dave Kerr at 11:00 a.m. on February 7, 2000 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present: Alan Conroy, KS Legislative Research Department
Michael Corrigan, Asst. Revisor of Statutes
Rae Anne Davis, KS Legislative Research Department
Debra Hollon, KS Legislative Research Department
Judy Bromich, Administrative Assistant to the Chairman
Ronda Miller, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Alan Conroy, Chief Fiscal Analyst, KLRD
Randy Allen, Executive Director, Kansas Association of Counties
Don Moler, Executive Director, League of Kansas Municipalities

Others attending: See attached list

Senator Lawrence moved, Senator Ranson seconded, that the minutes of the February 1, 2 and 3 meetings be approved. The motion carried on a voice vote.

It was moved by Senator Ranson and seconded by Senator Lawrence that bill draft 9rs 2005 be introduced as requested by the Board of Regents. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Alan Conroy, Chief Fiscal Analyst, Kansas Legislative Research Department, distributed copies of a memo entitled "Overview of the Fiscal Year 2001 Governor's Budget Report" which he reviewed for Committee members. (Attachment 1)

It was noted that the Governor's revised estimates of the KPERS and KPERS-School benefit payments was made to address the issue of double-counting (counting when the state contribution is made and when the benefits are paid).

In discussing the table summarizing the changes to FY 2000 expenditures (Attachment 1-2), it was noted that the tabulation does not reflect changes made by the 2000 Legislature in SB 39 which provides \$8 million all funds above the Governor's recommendations. Staff indicated that the Legislature, at this point, has recommended \$10-12 million more than the Governor for FY 2001 (an additional \$16 million for education with offsetting savings totaling approximately \$4 million).

Mr. Conroy responded to an inquiry regarding the reduction in appropriations for Regents institutions' projects by stating that those capital improvement projects will be completed in the current year.

In the discussion of regents' faculty salary increases, (Attachment 1-8), it was stated that the Governor's recommendation includes a 2.5% increase for all unclassified positions in the regents institutions in conjunction with the recommended 2.5% increase in the unclassified merit pool. It was noted that merit increases for presidents of the institutions are at the discretion of the Board of Regents; merit raises of all other unclassified employees are at the discretion of the president and his/her staff.

During discussion of state workforce adjustments (Attachment 1-9), staff was requested to provide

CONTINUATION SHEET

SENATE WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE MINUTES

information regarding:

- salary increases for unclassified temporary positions by agency
- the impact of FTE reductions in SRS over the next two years

In answer to a question, Mr. Conroy concurred that the positions in SRS had been eliminated through retirement in accordance with statute (which requires the elimination of one FTE for every four positions vacated through retirement) and also reiterated that 20% of the 187 FTE positions have not been restored. It was requested that staff provide a summary of retirements by agency. Chairman Kerr advised the members that a bill that repeals the mechanism to reduce the number of FTE positions is in Committee.

In answer to a question, Mr. Conroy stated that funding for the Department of Commerce and Housing has been shifted from the SGF to the EDIF and other sources in FY 2001 (Attachment 11-12). He stated that he would determine whether any KTEC monies had been shifted to fund Commerce.

Responding to an inquiry, Mr. Conroy noted that the Welfare to Work program within the Department of Human Resources does not continue into FY 2001.

Mr. Randy Allen, Executive Director of the Kansas Association of Counties, appeared before the Committee to address the Governor's recommendations regarding the three demand transfer programs to county government. He reviewed his written testimony. (Attachment 2) In response to a request, Mr. Allen stated that he would provide a summary of the impact by county of the recommended reductions in demand transfers.

Mr. Don Moler, Executive Director of the League of Kansas Municipalities, appealed to members to not adopt the Governor's recommendations regarding demand transfers to cities and counties. He distributed and reviewed copies of his written testimony. (Attachment 3)

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 12:10 p.m. The next meeting will be February 8, 2000.