

MORE FROM THE SENATE FLOOR, WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

By Staff Writers

■(GIT) The Senate considered the following measures on Wednesday:

HB2086, authored by Sen. Howard Hendrick, R-Bethany, deletes population requirements for cities and towns as they relate to the adoption of written investment policies.

The conference committee report was adopted and the measure received a passing vote of 43-0 with an emergency clause.

HB2115, authored by Sen. Jerry Smith, R-Tulsa, modifies the conditions by which murder in the first degree occurs in certain circumstances.

The conference committee report, which adds a new Section Two and examines nolo contendere pleas, was adopted. The measure received a passing vote of 48-0.

HB2179, authored by Sen. Howard Hendrick, R-Bethany, allows the Oklahoma Health Care Authority to accept federal grant money to augment programs within its jurisdiction to reimburse the state for any such assistance payments and allows the authority to make apportionments with said funds.

The conference committee report which restored the title of the bill was adopted, and the measure received a 46-2 vote.

HB2291, authored by Sen. Lewis Long, D-Glenpool, clarifies language relevant to the suspension, demotion, or termination of education support employees.

The measure was altered in conference committee to allow school employees who have been injured on the job, to draw Worker's Compensation and receive full pay during the employee's temporary absence.

The conference committee report was adopted, and the measure received a passing vote of 47-0 with an emergency clause.

HB2470, authored by Sen. Sam Helton, D-Lawton, creates the Oklahoma Prison Industry Marketing Development Advisory Task Force until July 1, 2001.

The conference committee report, which restores the title of the bill was adopted, and the measure received a passing vote of 44-3.

HB2620, authored by Sen. James Maddox, D-Lawton, creates the Construction Division within the Department of Corrections.

The conference committee substitute, which was adopted by members of the Senate, states that "whenever feasible, the Department of Central Services may utilize the Construction Division of the Department of Corrections for the construction and repair

of buildings for the Department of Corrections."

Maddux said this language is designed to take these projects out of private competition. The measure received a 43-1 passing vote with an emergency clause.

HB2637, authored by Sen. Frank Shurden, D-Henryetta, relates to game and fish programs and licensing. Extends and renames former programs, outlines hunting license fees, and donation designation requirements.

The conference committee report, which relates to the Oklahoma Nongame Improvement Program was adopted, and the measure received a passing vote of 48-0.

HB2735, authored by Sen. Mike Fair, R-Oklahoma City, clarifies language relating to the civil rights of prisoners.

The conference committee substitute which was adopted as the conference committee report, cleans up language which would help speed up the parole of nonviolent illegal alien offenders to the Immigration and Naturalization Services, according to Fair.

The measure received a passing vote of 43-1 with an emergency clause.

HB2745, authored by Sen. Gene Stipe, D-McAlester, directs the Department of Transportation County Advisory Board to establish a maximum purchase allocation for participating counties and to establish an interest rate which may be charged on all leases or lease-purchase agreements.

After adopting the bill's conference committee report, members passed the measure with a vote of 46 to 1.

HB2937, authored by Sen. Gene Stipe, D-McAlester, modifies permissible duration of contracts with private prison contractors and provides limitations.

The conference committee report designates the time for contracts to be dependent on the funding available for the purpose of contracting. According to Stipe, these contracts will be made in allotments of one fiscal year. The report also provided clean up language throughout the bill.

After adopting the report, members passed the measure with a vote of 45-2 with an emergency clause.

HB2989, by Sen. Paul Muegge, D-Tonkawa, allots portions of the Waste Tire Recycling Indemnity Fund.

After adopting the bill's conference committee report, members passed the measure and its emergency clause with a vote of 35

to 13.

HCR1092, authored by Sen. Ben Robinson, D-Muskogee, memorializes the Congress of the United States to amend the federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act and the Public Health Service Act to facilitate the development and approval of new drugs and biologics and directs distribution.

The Resolution was adopted.

SB694, authored by Sen. Kevin Easley, D-Broken Arrow, adds county boards and public trust authorities to provisions allowing dual office holding.

Members adopted the Conference Committee report, and passed the measure with a vote of 41-7.

SB742, authored by Sen. Larry Dickerson, D-Poteau, authorizes the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) to enter into contracts for the payment of expenses relating to conferences, meetings or training sessions. It also authorizes OPM to establish and collect fees for participation in training programs.

The conference committee report, which specifies circumstances for officials and state employees to be reimbursed for business travel expenses was adopted. The measure received a passing vote of 48-0.

SB838, authored by Sen. Enoch Kelly Haney, D-Seminole, appropriates supplemental funds to the Department of Corrections.

The General Conference Committee on Appropriations report appropriates the following:

—\$426,462.00 for the Early Intervention Program for the State Board of Education

—\$500,000 for computer systems enhancements for the State Supreme Court

—\$124,458.00 for computer systems enhancements for the Court of Criminal Appeals

—\$200,000.00 for the duties imposed upon the Office of the State Auditor and Inspector by law.

The report was adopted and the measure received a passing vote of 47-0.

SB843, authored by Sen. Enoch Kelly Haney, D-Seminole, Appropriates funds to the Oklahoma Liquefied Petroleum Gas Board.

The General Conference Committee on Appropriations report submitted a committee substitute which appropriates a total of \$405,590 for administration and inspections of the Gas board.

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