

FROM THE SENATE FLOOR, MONDAY, MAY 13

By Brandon Beard
Staff Writer

■(GIT) The Senate considered the following measures on Monday, May 13:

HB2100, by Sen. Dick Wilkerson, D-Atwood, allows for members of the Oklahoma Highway Patrol, Capitol Patrol, or Lake Patrol to purchase the sidearm and shotgun or rifle issued to them.

After adopting the conference committee report, members passed the bill with a vote of 46 to 0.

HB2188, by Sen. Howard Hendrick, R-Bethany, modifies the definition of "medical savings account" to include that which is offered by the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board.

After adopting the bill's conference committee report, members passed the bill and its emergency clause with a vote of 45 to 0.

HB2279, by Sen. Ben Brown, D-Oklahoma City, exempts persons over the age of 65 from paying a fee for a traffic record summary furnished by the Department of Public Safety or a motor license agent.

After adopting the conference committee report, members passed the bill with a vote of 33 to 5.

HB2887, by Sen. Don Williams, D-Balko, authorizes the State Regents for Higher Education to revoke certain licenses as a collection effort for defaulted student loans.

After adopting the bill's conference committee report, the measure was laid over for further questioning.

HB2988, by Sen. Paul Muegge, D-Tonkawa, authorizes the State Board of Agriculture to establish fees and provides for other surety allowable for livestock markets by the U.S. Packers and Stockyards Act. It also provides penalties upon the suspension, revocation or expiration of livestock auction market licenses.

The bill was laid over for further questioning.

SB720, by Sen. Trish Weedn, D-Purcell, creates the Southern Regional Emergency Management Assistance Compact.

After adopting the bill's conference committee report, members passed the measure with a vote of 43 to 1.

Weedn lodged a motion to reconsider, giving her three legislative days to re-address the issue.

SB854, by Sen. Charles Ford, R-Tulsa, creates the Oklahoma Capitol Complex Cen-

tennial Commission. It directs the Legislature to appropriate \$2.5 million annually for the next consecutive 10 years to fund the commission, beginning June 30, 1997.

After adopting the bill's conference committee report, members passed the measure and its emergency clause with a vote of 38 to 3.

SB1061, by Wilkerson, states that any order directing a defendant to pay costs of representation shall be a lien against all real and personal property of the defendant and may be filed against such property as provided by law for such liens.

After adopting the bill's conference committee report, members passed the measure with a vote of 45 to 0.

SB1115, by Sen. Brad Henry, D-Shawnee, requires consent for minors to be issued a motor vehicle license.

After adopting the bill's second conference committee report, members passed the measure with a vote of 39 to 3.

SB1192, by Sen. Dave Herbert, D-Midwest City, creates the Oklahoma Tourism and Passenger Rail Act in preparation for Amtrak rail service to re-enter the state. It also creates the Oklahoma Tourism and Passenger Rail Revolving Fund.

Herbert said there is approximately \$1.6 million in the fund currently.

He also said that, currently, there are four different route options in the works. "Each with their own price tag," he said.

Should Amtrak locate in Oklahoma, the state would receive some \$25 million in federal start-up funds.

Herbert said federal legislation was pending that would remove Amtrak from federal subsidies all together.

"If ever Amtrak was going to locate in Oklahoma, this is the time to do it," he said.

After adopting the measure's conference committee report, members passed the bill and its emergency clause with a vote of 43 to 1.

SB1261, by Sen. Jerry Smith, R-Tulsa, requires certain forms of pleading for certain transferred actions and provides for service by mail to garnishees. It also provides for notice of termination of lease agreements, a provision that Sen. Bernest Cain, D-Oklahoma City, did not care for.

The provision was amended by the House, changing the time in which a tenant has to comply with noncompliance with the Oklahoma Residential Landlord and Tenant Act from 14 days to 10 days.

"This amendment makes it where you can

get rid of renters really quickly...without many rights," Cain said, blasting the House for bringing the amendment.

After adopting the bill's conference committee report, members passed the measure with a vote of 33 to 12.

Members also adopted **HCR1112**, by Sen. Stratton Taylor, D-Claremore. The measure commends Donna Nigh for her serve as first lady and work for the developmentally disabled.

Also adopted was **SCR62**, by Sen. Maxine Horner, D-Tulsa. The measure congratulates and honors Tulsa author Clifton Taulbert in preparation for a presentation to him tomorrow.

SCR39, by Sen. Enoch Kelly Haney, D-Seminole, was also adopted. It honors Jim Thorpe and declares him "America's best athlete of the century."

Also, members rejected the conference committee reports to **SB's 729, 852, 911, 1077, 1082 and 1209** and **HB1434**, requesting further conference.

HB2170 was brought up on a motion to reconsider. The motion was tabled.

FROM THE HOUSE FLOOR, MONDAY, MAY 13

By Shawn Ashley
Staff Writer

■(GIT) House members took action on the following measures when they met on Monday, May 13:

House members voted 94-0 to pass **HB2188**, by Rep. Joan Greenwood, R-Moore, which modifies the definition of "medical savings account" to include that which is offered by the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board; allowing any funds remaining in a medical savings account at the end of a tax year to remain in the account for future medical expenses; provides for payment of account funds to the account holder in the event the employee is no longer employed; also provides for an option to retain the account after employment; also allows for transfer of account to a new employer without penalty; requires the board to offer a high deductible health benefit plan; and provides employees participating in a deferred compensation plan the option of transferring those funds to a medical savings account, following adoption of the bill's conference committee report. Also approved was the bill's emer-

See *House*, page 6