

MORE FROM THE HOUSE FLOOR, TUESDAY, MAY 7

By Shawn Ashley
Staff Writer

■(GIT) The House considered the following measures on Tuesday, May 7, 1996:

HB2065, by Rep. Kevin Cox, D-Okla-homa City, creates the Oklahoma Athletic Trainers Act and received a passing vote of 99-1 with an emergency clause, following the acceptance of the bill's conference committee report.

HB2115, by Rep. Flint Breckinridge, R-Tulsa, received a passing vote of 98-1 after the acceptance of its conference committee report. The bill modifies the conditions by which murder in the first degree occurs in certain circumstances.

In conference committee, a provision changing the criteria for determining a defendant to be incompetent was changed from clear and convincing evidence to a preponderance of the evidence. The change was necessary as a result of a recent Supreme Court decision.

An additional provision concerning the return of stolen property was also added to the measure.

HB2179, by Rep. Tommy Thomas, D-Atoka, received a passing vote of 99-0 with its conference committee report adopted. The bill 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.

Receiving a passing vote of 97-2 was **HB2291**, by Rep. Larry Adair, D-Atoka, clarifying language relevant to the suspension, demotion or termination of education support employees, with its conference committee report having been accepted.

HB2323, by Rep. Dale Smith, D-St. Louis, creating the "School District Budget Act," received a passing vote of 99-0 after the adoption of its conference committee report. The bill allows school districts to use an alternative system for accounting and sets continuing education requirements for school board members.

HB2445, by Rep. Sean Voskuhl, D-Marshall, developing extended area telephone service and wide area calling plans where arbitrary boundaries divide communities and school districts, received a passing vote of 71-28 with an emergency clause.

HB2620, by Rep. Frank Davis, R-Guthrie, creating the Construction Division within the Department of Corrections, re-

ceived a passing vote of 92-0 following the adoption of the bill's conference committee report.

HB2735, by Reps. Larry Ferguson, R-Cleveland, and Tim Pope, R-Mustang, clarifying language relating to the civil rights of prisoners, received a passing vote of 100-0 with an emergency clause after the adoption of its conference committee report.

HB2745, by Rep. Larry Adair, D-Stilwell, directing 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, received a passing vote of 99-0 following the adoption of the bill's conference committee report.

House members voted 110-0 in favor of **HB2988**, by Rep. M. C. Leist, D-Morris, authorizing the State Board of Agriculture to establish fees; provides for other surety

allowable for livestock markets by the US Packers and Stockyards Act; and provides penalties upon the suspension, revocation, or expiration of livestock auction market licenses. Defines livestock and exotic animals.

HB2937, by Rep. Lloyd Fields, D-McAlester, modifying the permissible duration of contracts with private prison contractors and provides limitations, received a passing vote with an emergency clause of 100-0, after the adoption of its conference committee report.

SB1101, by Rep. Bill Paulk, D-Okla-homa City, deleting the fee remittance requirement relating to payment of removal fees to the state for motor vehicles, received a passing vote of 100-0 following the adoption of its conference committee report.

Conference committee reports were rejected and further conference requested on the following **House bills**: 2359, 2373, 2408 and 2584.

FROM THE SENATE FLOOR, TUESDAY, MAY 7

By Brandon Beard
Staff Writer

■(GIT) The Senate considered the following measures on Tuesday, May 7, 1996:

HB2278, by Sen. Ben Brown, D-Okla-homa City, and Rep. Gary Bastin, D-Del City, states minimum requirements for a second or subsequent drug and alcohol substance abuse course for those having had a related revocation or suspension; provides for criteria for offenders under the age of 21.

A request measure by DUI schools, the bill provides for DUI school attendance for second and subsequent offenses, a provision which does not currently exist, Brown said.

Brown fielded questions from Senate GOP leader Gerald "Ged" Wright, R-Broken Arrow, about the provision's \$250 fee. Wright asked what happens to those who are unable to pay the course fee, that is currently set at \$85 for first-time DUI offenders.

Brown said addicts will typically find a way to fund their drug of choice, including alcohol.

"My position is," Brown said, "if they are able to do that, then they will find a way to come up with the money."

Wright said, "The way you get people to go to counseling programs is to put them on probation — It seems to me that the programs we have now are adequate."

Wright, a Broken Arrow attorney, said most DUI related cases that come to his desk involve people who would be unable to pay the \$250 fee.

"It seems to me that the winners here will be the people who run the schools."

Brown said his measure was an exercise in "tough love."

"In my opinion, if someone has a second offense we should require treatment," he said, commenting that if he were to bring legislation requiring treatment, he would expect it to be defeated.

"A thirty-day treatment program at Valley Hope is about \$5,000," Brown added.

After adopting the bill's conference committee report, members passed the measure with a vote of 37 to 9.

SB587, by Sen. Angela Monson, D-Okla-homa City, and Rep. Bill Paulk, D-Okla-homa City, includes advanced practice nurses in the list of medical practitioners included in the definition of prescription; includes advanced practice nurses in the definition of licensed practitioner; specifies that advanced registered nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, certified nurse-midwives, certified registered nurse anesthetists, and advanced practice nurses may not dispense drugs but may dispense professional samples; allows such nurses to diagnose,

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