

Minutes of the Senate Local, Urban & State Affairs Committee

Tuesday, March 3, 2009

3:00 p.m.

Room 110 of the Farnum Building

Chairman Van Woerkom called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

Members present: Senators Van Woerkom, Birkholz, Gleason and Basham.

Senator Gleason motioned to approve the minutes from September 25, 2008 and the motion was supported by Senator Birkholz. The minutes from September 25, 2008 were approved.

Senator Birkholz moved to adopt the committee rules, with support from Senator Gleason. The committee rules were adopted.

Chairman Van Woerkom notified the committee that House Bill 4045 needed to be re-referred to the Senate Committee on Commerce and Tourism. Senator Birkholz moved to recommend referral to the Committee on Commerce and Tourism with support from Senator Gleason. HB 4045 was reported favorably with recommendation for referral to the Committee on Commerce and Tourism 4-0, with Sen. Allen being absent.

Chairman Van Woerkom summarized Senate Bill 222, sponsored by Sen. Gleason.

Sen. Gleason spoke about the need for the legislation and thanked the chairman for taking it up in committee.

Chairman Van Woerkom invited Bill Anderson, representing the Michigan Township Association, to testify on the bill. He spoke of the longstanding need for the legislation offered his support of SB 222.

Senator Allen arrived at 3:25 p.m.

Senator Birkholz stated her support for the bill.

Chairman Van Woerkom read the names of those who did not wish to speak on SB 222, but wished to have their opinion stated.

Those who supported the SB 222 were:

- David Lossing, Mayor, City of Linden.
- Samantha Harkins, Michigan Municipal League.

Those who were neutral on SB 222 were:

- Dennis Schornack, Michigan Recreation and Park Association.
- Larry Steckelberg, Michigan Department of Treasury.

Senator Birkholz moved to report out SB 222 with support from Senator Senator Gleason. SB 222 passed favorably, 5-0. Senator Birkholz motioned to report out SB 222 with immediate effect with support from Senator Gleason. SB 222 was reported favorably, 5-0, with immediate effect.

Chairman Van Woerkom introduced and summarized Senate Bill 284.

Chairman Van Woerkom invited David Lossing, Mayor of the city of Linden, to testify on the bill. Mr. Lossing supported SB 284 and spoke of the need for the legislation and the idea of intergovernmental cooperation it promotes.

Chairman Van Woerkom invited Bill Anderson, Michigan Township Association, to testify on Senate Bill 284. Mr. Anderson stated his support for the legislation, calling it a bill that keeps up with new authorities created by the state legislature.

Senator Gleason commented that the legislation would keep elected officials more engaged. Chairman Van Woerkom read the names of those who did not wish to speak on SB 284, but wished to have their opinion stated.

Those who supported the SB 284 were:

- Andy Schor, Michigan Municipal League.

Senator Birkholz motioned to report out SB 284 with support from Senator Basham. SB 284 passed favorably, 5-0. Senator Birkholz motioned to report out SB 284 with immediate effect with support from Senator Allen. SB 284 was reported favorably, 5-0, with immediate effect.

Senator Birkholz motioned for adjournment with no objection.

Chairman Van Woerkom adjourned the committee at 3:42 p.m.