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THE SENATE
COMMITTEE ON LOCAL, URBAN
AND STATE AFFAIRS

SENATOR
GERALD VAN WOERKOM
CHAIRMAN

Minutes of the Senate Local, Urban & State Affairs Committee
Tuesday, October 27, 2009
3:00 p.m.
Room 110 of the Farnum Building

Chairman Van Woerkom called the meeting to order at 3:11 p.m.

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

Senator Birkholz motioned to approve the minutes from September 25, 2009 and the motion was supported by Senator Gleason. The minutes from September 25, 2009 were approved.

Chairman Van Woerkom invited Rep. Womack to introduce House Bill 5052.

Rep. Womack spoke about the increasing prevalence of emergency financial managers and the importance of transparency in that position.

Sen. Gleason mentioned the City of Flint and thanked Rep. Womack for bringing the bill forward.

Chairman Van Woerkom invited Alesha Gensler from Sen. Garcia's office and Wayne County Undersheriff Daniel Pfannes to explain Senate Concurrent Resolution 26.

Undersheriff Pfannes explained the need for the resolution and that it was not a funding mechanism but merely a formality.

Chairman Van Woerkom read the names of those who did not wish to speak on SCR 26, but wished to have their opinion stated.

Those who supported SCR 26 were:

- Erik Hingst, GCSI, representing the Deputy Sheriff Association of Michigan.
- Terry Jungel, Michigan Sheriff's Association.

Chairman Van Woerkom introduced Senate Bill 791, which creates the Uniform Real Property Recording Act and creates a commission to review and create standards for handling real property documents electronically.

Chairman Van Woerkom asked the clerk to explain the changes contained in the S-1.

Sen. Gleason moved to adopt the S-1 Substitute for Senate Bill 791 with support from Sen. Basham. The substitute was adopted 3-0.

Chairman Van Woerkom invited Kieran Marion of the Uniform Law Commission to explain the need for the legislation. Mr. Marion expressed his support for the S-1 version of SB 791.

Sen. Birkholz arrived at 3:25 p.m.

Chairman Van Woerkom invited Mildred Dodak, Saginaw County Register of Deeds and Lorie Sorensen-Smith, Wexford Register of Deeds, to testify. Both expressed their support for the S-1 version of SB 791 and said this bill is a first step in the right direction.

Sen. Birkholz questioned whether e-recording could be efficiency and Ms. Dodak stated her belief that it could be.

Chairman Van Woerkom read the names of those who did not wish to speak on SB 791, but wished to have their opinion stated.

Those who supported SB 791 were:

- Cami Pendell, representing the Michigan Land Title Association.
- Curtis Hertel, Ingham County Register of Deeds.

Those who were neutral on SB 791 were:

- David Newmant, Michigan Department of Information Technology.

Sen. Allen arrived at 3:35 p.m.

Senator Birkholz moved to report out House Bill 5052 with support from Senator Allen. HB 5052 passed favorably, 5-0. Senator Birkholz motioned to report out HB 5052 with immediate effect with support from Senator Allen. HB 5052 was reported favorably, 5-0, with immediate effect.

Senator Birkholz moved to report out SCR 26 with support from Senator Allen. SCR 26 passed favorably, 5-0.

Senator Birkholz moved to report out SB 791 (S-1) with support from Senator Allen. SB 791 passed favorably, 5-0. Senator Allen motioned to report out SB 791 (S-1) with immediate effect with support from Senator Birkholz. SB 791(S-1) was reported favorably, 5-0, with immediate effect.

Senator Gleason motioned for adjournment with no objection.
Chairman Van Woerkom adjourned the committee at 3:45 p.m.