

March 31, 2010

In Conference Committee:

1. SB368, the DUI bill. A conference committee report was agreed to that included only the original intent of the bill which is to delay implementation of a law passed last year on DUI sentencing from 7/1/2010 until 7/1/2011. The House rejected this agreement. They will meet on it again. There was solid agreement on both sides regarding our concern for the interlock provisions added to the bill that impacted DUI test refusals.
2. SB434 increasing sentences for unlawful sexual relations. This bill also now contains the changes to burglary sentencing from HB2582.
3. HB2226 now contains the provisions of HB2413 raising traffic fines to create funding for DOC DUI treatment programs. This bill did not pass in either chamber. **We were able to get them to consider increasing the fines enough to also pay for the KCJIS lines. The decision was not to work this bill in conference at this time since neither chamber has passed it. But to have the Senate insert these provisions into a HB2226. The Senate Judiciary met just to hear this bill which was then passed in the Senate. The House then nonconcurred sending it to conference committee.**
4. Reached agreement on all issues but one in HB2506 which includes a bunch of parole related issues from this bill and what was originally in HB2505, HB2507. The House wants to add the provisions of HB2508. It is the issue with HB2508 which is controversial and caused them to wait for additional information from the house before they agree on adding that provision. They will take this up again when they return.
5. They discussed HB2509, civil cause of action relating to child pornography. They agreed on language to address concerns of including cases with a minor who initiates the pornographic image themselves such as in sexting cases. The senate approved the conference committee report but the house did not take it up before the break. The House will consider it when they return.

Other bills for possible consideration in conference committees:

1. They discussed an interest in HCR5026 asking for a study of district courts addressing the number of judges and magistrates.
2. They discussed considering SB523 a state RICO law. This passed the Senate but the house did not take it up.
3. They discussed addressing SB459 addressing procedures for jury trials for juveniles. This passed the Senate but the house did not take it up.
4. SB520 concerning credits towards fines of \$5 per hour for prisoners who perform work.
5. HB2226 changing the requirements for empanelling a grand jury. The topic is being discussed even though the bill has been gutted and used for the traffic fine increase for DOC treatment programs and KCJIS line provisions.
6. SB435 amending search incident to arrest statute. It also now has a racial profiling data collection provision added to it. The Senate ruled this bill "materially changed" and sent it to the Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee.

7. Texting bills are being discussed in the Transportation Conference Committee. They are leaning toward the provisions of HB2039, the bill put together during the fall by the coalition including law enforcement. Several texting bills passed the Senate but the house did not take it up.
8. Seatbelts will be considered but probably not through a conference committee agreement. There may be an attempt like last year to get the House to vote on the issue. It is doubtful the votes are there. Several legislators are indicating they will only vote for primary seatbelt enforcement if there is also a racial profiling bill passed. This passed the Senate but the house did not take it up.
9. SB484 adding driving to and from religious events as an acceptable use of age restricted driver's license.
10. SB471 expanding harassment by telephone to harassment by a telecommunications device. This passed the Senate but the house did not take it up.