

Minutes of  
Judiciary and Criminal Justice Committee  
Wednesday, February 22, 1989

Chairman, Terry M. Tranter, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. on Wednesday, February 22, 1989. A quorum was present at that time.

The first bill to be considered today was House Bill 166, legislation sponsored by Rep. Tom Roberts. This was the first hearing on this bill which would forbid housing juveniles in adult penal facilities except for three hours during processing.

Representative Roberts presented his bill to the committee. He stated that this bill passed the Judiciary Committee last year. This bill would separate juvenile and adult offenders. Also, there are federal incentives to comply with the mandate; Ohio will lose grant money if we don't comply.

Judge S. Farrell Jackson, representing the Ohio Association of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, testified as a proponent of this bill. He stated that Scioto and Prebble Counties are not in compliance, but both will comply when this bill is enacted.

Last to testify on this bill today was Mr. Steve Saltsman. He testified as a proponent representing the Madison County Sheriff and the Buckeye State Sheriffs.

This constituted the first hearing of House Bill 166.

Next to be considered today was House Bill 215, sponsored by Rep. Troy Lee James. This was the first hearing on this bill which would prohibit selling controlled substances - police.

Representative James presented his bill to the committee. He stated that there is a vagueness of current laws regarding police selling drugs for undercover arrests. This bill will clarify the original intent of the law.

Councilwoman Artha Woods, representing Ward 6, testified as a proponent of this bill. She stated that the Cleveland police operation that lead to this bill was done in her ward. She reported several "drug houses" to the police department; they did nothing about it.

Next to testify was Reverend Marvin McMickle, representing the NAACP as an interested party. He stated that he reviewed the Cleveland case for the committee.

Mr. Omar Al-Bey, representing the Coalition for a better Life, 21st District Congressional Caucus, testified as a proponent. He feels that the black community is tired being deceived by the police and courts. Drugs are a new form of slavery.

Last to testify on this bill today was Representative Vermel M. Whalen. She supports this bill because this took place in her district.

This constituted the first hearing of House Bill 215

The last bill to be heard today was House Bill 129, legislation sponsored by Representative Terry M. Tranter. This was the third hearing on this bill which concerns grounds for divorce.

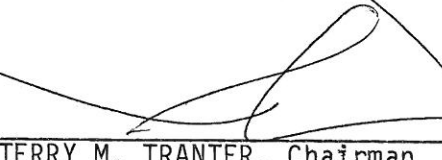
Representative Walsh moved to amend the bill. Representative Vukovich moved to amend the amendment. Hearing no objection, the amended amendment was adopted.

Representative Walsh moved that House Bill 129 be favorably considered for passage and that the roll call remain open until session. Representative Hickey seconded the motion.

By a vote of 13-1, the bill was favorably reported out at this time.

With no further business at hand, the committee adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

  
STEVEN O. WILLIAMS, Secretary

  
TERRY M. TRANTER, Chairman