

Congress gives flights here a reprieve

AIRLINE, from Page 1

president's desk by Monday, and he will have 10 days to sign or veto it. She said the feeling in Washington is that President Clinton will sign the bill into law.

The bill was introduced in March 1999, and has been in a House/Senate conference committee since October. The conference reached agreement on March 7, and the amended bill was approved by the Senate on March 8 by an 87-12 vote.

The House took up the conference report on Wednesday and it was approved 319-101.

Included in the new law are provisions for revamping the Federal Aviation Administration and funding the aviation programs with \$40 billion over the next three years.

Also included is an increase of \$15 million in the discretionary funding for Essential Air Service.

Another provision increases the authorization for airport improvements, which Pickman hopes will allow Goodland to add 700 feet to the primary runway to allow the airport to regain its Class C rating.

News rules from the FAA recently issued reduced the rating on Renner Field to a Class B, because the main runway was not 6,500 feet long.

The change in rating reduced the type of aircraft which can use the airport, and without the 700 feet of additional runway, there are several types of small jets which could not land in Goodland.

Pickman said he would have the city's consulting engineers take a look at the new program to see if there is a way to apply for funding of a runway extension to regain the better rating.

The new law also includes a provision to establish an air service development pilot program to allow communities or combinations of communities to apply for money to improve air service if the area has insufficient air carrier service or high air fares.



Tracy Skipper, Goodland, boarded a United Express airplane this morning at the Goodland's Renner Field. Photo by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News

Under the pilot program, communities would have to agree to provide part of the money for their plan.

"The FAA reauthorization agreement puts more money into Kansas airports and general aviation safety efforts," said Rep. Moran of Hays. "This is good news throughout Kansas. It makes sense to spend aviation tax dollars on aviation improvements and passenger safety."

"For Kansas, this bill provides in-

creased funding for community airports, increases the investment in air safety and establishes a program to help communities with high air fares attract additional air service.

"Under the aviation bill, primary airports will receive \$1 million per year for safety and capacity concerns. General aviation airports will qualify for funding up to \$150,000 per year. The Essential Air Service program will also receive \$50 million in mandatory fund-

ing, with an additional \$15 million in discretionary spending available through appropriated funding.

"Kansas airports and passengers will benefit from the additional funding for airport improvements," said Moran. "Air transportation has made all of our lives more convenient. This bill recognizes the importance of aviation and puts safety first by funding the necessary maintenance that air travel requires."

Track section reopened; wreck cause not located

TOPEKA (AP)—A stretch of track in Osage County damaged by an Amtrak derailment has reopened, but investigators still haven't pinpointed the cause of the accident.

The National Transportation Safety Board announced Thursday night that damaged sections of rail just south of Carbondale had been replaced so that trains could resume traveling the route. Carbondale is about 15 miles south of Topeka.

Board member George Black said sections of rail will be sent to the NTSB's headquarters in Washington for further study. He said cars involved in the derailment also will be studied.

He said investigators believe the lounge car, the fifth car behind the four locomotives, was the first to leave the tracks early Wednesday morning. However, Black stressed that the conclusion was tentative.

While Black spent much of his news conference discussing whether sections of track may have contained at least small flaws, he told reporters the board has not reached any conclusions.

"We are not ready to declare anything yet," he said. "I would encourage you not to predetermine anything."

Fifteen of the 26 cars of Amtrak's westbound Southwest Chief derailed. The accident occurred just before 2 a.m. Wednesday, when the train was traveling 60 miles per hour, Black said.

Amtrak has said five passenger cars, including two sleepers, tipped onto their sides while a sixth left the track but remained upright. The remaining derailed cars carried mail and light freight.

There were no fatalities among the 155 passengers and 15 crew members on the Chicago-to-Los Angeles train, but 29 passengers were injured.

Passenger Kathy Lambert, 53, of

Stroh, Ind., remained in critical condition Thursday night at Stormont-Vail Regional Health Center in Topeka; others were treated at Topeka hospitals and released.

Black described interviews with the train's engineer, assistant engineer and crew members as "unremarkable." He said all have taken required drug tests but added, "We have no reason to believe at this point that that was any problem."

He also said that in derailments, a flaw in a section of track may become more serious as a train rolls over it. He said because locomotives are the heaviest cars, they can be "the last straw" before a derailment.

"We're focusing on a lot of things," he said. "When there's a derailment, you look at the track and you look at the rolling stock. It's usually one of those two things."

He said the section of track had been visually inspected on Tuesday and underwent an electronic inspection in October, and no serious flaws were detected by either examination.

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Abortion, open records top legislative actions

By Kelly Wiese

Associated Press Writer

TOPEKA — A vote on an abortion bill and committee action on open records issues dominated legislative business.

Casting aside what the House wanted, the Senate passed a bill that bans what state law calls "partial-birth" abortion and broadens the exceptions for other late-term procedures.

The 27-13 vote Thursday returns the bill to the House, but in a different form. Speaker Robin Jennison, R-Healy, said he wasn't optimistic about the bill's future in his chamber.

Gov. Bill Graves' legal counsel, Natalie Haag, said though that the Senate bill is something the governor could sign.

The law would ban partial-birth abortions except to save a woman's life or if the pregnancy would substantially and irreversibly impair her physical or mental health.

Also, the law would ban other late-term abortions except when the pregnancy would pose a threat to a woman's life or cause a "substantial and irreversible impairment of a major bodily function."

What the Senate did was outlaw the partial-birth procedure and replace the "major bodily" function exception for other late-term abortions with an exception to preserve the life or health of the woman.

The House-passed bill would have banned partial-birth abortion except when two physicians determine it's necessary to save a woman's life.

Attorney General Carla Stovall said that bill was unconstitutional because it would apply to all stages of pregnancy.

Meanwhile, after more than a month of discussions, a House committee approved a bill to strengthen the Kansas Open Records act.

The House Local Government Committee endorsed the bill, which would create the position of public access officer in the attorney general's office.

That person would hear disputes about violations of the law and issue advisory opinions on the law.

The bill, which now goes to the House, was based on a proposal by Graves and Stovall. It would allow public agencies to be fined up to \$500 if they fail to disclose records. In most cases, agencies would have to provide records immediately.

The bill also would eliminate all exemptions to the law by July 1, 2005, unless the Legislature acts to keep them.

After the hearing, Chairman Carlos Mayans, R-Wichita, said he would ask that a committee study the exceptions after the Legislature adjourns this year.

In other Statehouse action, the Senate Ways and Means Committee reviewed Graves' plan for pulling extra nursing home dollars out of the federal government. The money could amount to as much as \$120 million during the state's 2001 budget, which begins July 1.

The committee reviewed a bill that would make the necessary changes in

Kansas law to get the federal money and allocate it the way Graves wants.

Representatives of nursing homes told the committee they want the Legislature to allocate a bigger slice of the pie to them than Graves suggested.

They want more money to go to nursing homes to help them with renovations and programs, and they want to make sure that if the state continues to get extra dollars from the federal government, some of it will continue to go to their projects.

Abortion bill is Sub for HB 2581;

open records bill is Sub for HB 2864; extra federal money bill is SB 653. Bills are available on the Internet at <http://www.ink.org/public/legislative/fulltext.cgi>.

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KANSAS 2X2 DISPLAY AD NETWORK

AUCTION

Monday, March 27, 2000

Starting Time: 1:00 p.m.

Located at the American Legion Building in Grainfield, KS

Blizzard Date: Wed., Mar. 29, 2000

TRACT I

W1/2, W1/2, NW1/4, Sec. 21-12-29, Gove Co., KS, consisting of 40 acres of cropland, with 16.7 (+/-) acres planted to wheat. The buyer(s) will receive 1/3 of 2000 wheat harvest and government payment if any. This land is located 4 miles west, then 2-1/2 miles north of Gove, KS. Total Cropland Acres: 40 acres; Taxes: \$88.78

TRACT II

SE 1/4, Sec. 21-12-29, Gove Co., KS, consisting of 105.5 (+/-) acres cropland and 52.5 (+/-) acres grass. There are no growing crops on this tract. This tract is located 3 miles west and 2 miles north of Gove, KS.; Total Acres: 160 acres; Taxes: \$270.12; Possession: On closing

TRACT III

NE 1/4, Sec. 15-12-29, Gove Co., KS, consisting of 160 (+/-) acres w/91.2 (+/-) acres planted to wheat with the balance being SF acres. Buyer(s) will receive 1/3 of 2000 wheat harvest if any and 1/3 of government payments if any. This tract is located 4 miles north and 2 miles west of Gove, KS.; Total Acres: 160 acres; Taxes: \$323.10; Possession: Acres planted to wheat after 2000 wheat harvest, balance on idle ground on closing.

TRACT IV

SW 1/4, Sec. 35-12-29, Gove Co., KS, consisting of 160 (+/-) acres w/186.7 (+/-) acres cropland w/the balance being pasture land. A windmill and cattle shed are located on this tract, and also a spring fed creek. There are currently 50.3 (+/-) acres planted to wheat. The buyer(s) will receive 1/3 of 2000 wheat harvest. Buyer(s) will also receive 1/3 of 2000 FSA payments if any. This tract is located 1-1/2 miles west of Gove, KS.; Total Acres: 160 acres; Taxes: \$312.98; Possession: Acres planted to wheat after 2000 wheat harvest, balance on idle ground on closing

TRACT V

NE 1/4, Sec. 23-10-28, Sheridan Co., KS, consisting of 160 (+/-) acres with 106.2 (+/-) acres cropland w/the balance being pasture land. There are currently 28.2 (+/-) acres planted to wheat w/the balance being SF. This land is located 12 miles south and 1-1/2 miles east of Hoxie, KS.; Total Acres: 160 acres; Taxes: \$333.62;

Possession: Acres planted to wheat after 2000 wheat harvest, balance on idle ground on closing. Buyer(s) will receive 1/3 of 2000 wheat harvest and 1/3 of FSA payment if any; Bases: Wheat: 58.5, Barley: .3, Milo: 1.4.8

Manner of Sale: This land will be sold as individual tracts only.

Terms: 15% down day of Sale, balance due on closing.

Taxes: Sellers will pay all of 1999 and prior year taxes. 2000 taxes will be prorated up to closing.

Minerals: All of the minerals are believed to be intact and are going to the Buyer(s).

Crop and FSA Payments: Buyer(s) will receive 1/3 of 2000 growing wheat and 1/3 of FSA payment if any.

Acres: All acreages are based on U.S. Government measurements and are considered approximate. The statements, while not guaranteed, are from reliable sources. Any costs incurred in establishing boundaries shall be the responsibility of the buyer(s). Sale is subject to easements, rights-of-way, reservation and/or restrictions of record. Seller and Realtor make no warranties, either expressed or implied. Broker represents the Seller only and will not be considered an agent for the Purchaser(s). Announcements made day of sale shall take precedence over all printed material.

Margaret Heier Estate

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AUCTION

Saturday, March 25, 2000

Storm Date: Sunday, March 26, 2000

Starting Time: 9:00 a.m.

Located at the Gove County 4-H Building in Grainfield, KS

Hotels are available in Oakley, KS and Quinter, KS.

YOU will be able to view the items from 5-7 p.m. on Friday, March 24.

Terms: Cash day of sale. Nothing removed until settled for. Not responsible for accidents or theft. Lunch will be served.

Household & Miscellaneous Items
2 Wooden clothes closets w/drawers; Luggage; Wooden chest; 5-Tier wooden shelf; Vacuum sweepers; Wooden night stand; Toy chest; Metal wardrobe; Maytag washer and dryer; Clothes hamper; 2 Full size bed frames; End tables; Several lamps; Entertainment center; Many stuffed animals; Swivel rockers; Wicker shelves; Small 2-dr. cabinet; 5-Drawer chest of drawers; Cassette cabinet; Floor heater; Small wooden chest; Foyer bench; Fireplace tools; Poker table; Square area rug; Floor fan; Small foot stool; Floor lamp; Throw pillows; Sofa table; Jewelry box clock; Mantle clock; Portable bar w/entertainment center and fireplace; 4-Drawer chest of drawers; Lots of misc. Avon; Wall shelving; Wicker framed mirror; Bathroom cabinets; Panasonic microwave and stand; World globe w/stand; Dallas Cowboys collectables; Knick knack shelves; Misc. bedding; File cabinets; Kitchen stool; Many Star Wars Toys; Kerosene lamps; Christmas decor; 5-Tier wooden shelf; Small wooden appliance bench; Several wooden cabinets; Sev. clocks; Misc. fans; Combination safe; Old camel back trunk; Step stool; Silvertone guitar; Dresser bench; Metal storage cabinet; 6-Drawer chest of drawers; Shoe racks; Pewter car banks; Ostrich egg jewelry box; Many dolls; Approx. 50+ Toy Trucks, Tractors, Cars, etc. 1/16th scale Tonka, NyLint, Ertl, Buddy L; Wooden corner cabinet; Mickey Mouse cookie jar; Misc. ceramic bowls; Baby clothes; Toy bench; Wicker baby stroller; Dresser w/round mirror; Bread slicer; 13" Color TV; Shop vac; Several Beanie Babies; Outdoor light kit; Misc. Fisher Price toys; 20" Girls bicycle; Casio fun machine; Golf clubs; Lots of small kitchen appliances, new in boxes; 5-Gal. cream can; Swing set; Patio shades; Misc. coolers; Metal shelving/Record albums; Small refrigerator; Ice cream makers; 3-Change counters; Pleasure chest; Misc. Halloween costumes; Baby strollers; Match Box cars; Card table; Many, many toys and games, new in boxes; Movie camera and tripod; Electric kitchen grinder; 6-Cabbage Patch dolls in boxes; All purpose gas cooker; Dehydrator Snack Master; 4-Qt. roaster; Space Maker coffee maker; Bird house; Doll clothes; Pacific Rim dishes; Churchhill dishes; Wooden bookcase; Bar cabinet; Misc. pots and pans; Wicker patio furniture; Coffee pots; Children's patio furniture; Kitchen utensils; Many wall hangings; Sewing boxes; Bar rack and cabinet; LP barbecue grill; Blonde dinette drop leaf table; 2-China cabinets; Baby high chair; Misc. doll furniture; Ceramic animals; Corner drop leaf table; Coffee table; Small flat irons; 2 Baby beds; Wood plant stand; Avon thimble collection; Hall tree; Yard ornaments: horse & cart, windmill, dog, rabbits, geese; 2-24" Delta tool boxes; Radio Flyer plastic wagon; Throw rugs; Butter Churns, Pitcher & Bowls; Porcelain Dolls & Sofa Bench; Monarch Piano by Baldwin; TMX Trike & Cart, Spring Wooden Horse, Pedal Wagon; John Deere pedal tractors; Miscellaneous ceramic animals

Guns

Daisy BB gun; J.C. Higgins BB gun; Model 31 Remington 12-gauge shotgun w/adjustable choke; Model 1100 Remington 12-gauge shotgun, left handed; Model 870 Remington 12-gauge

NOTE: All statements or representation herein are believed to be correct. The Auction Firm has no war rent or either expressed or implied. Announcements made day of sale shall take precedence over printed material. All guarantees are between buyer and seller

NOTE: This is just a partial listing of the items being sold. There are many name brand toys that are still in the original boxes that are not listed. They were still cleaning out cabinets when the sale bill was being printed. It was impossible to list everything. Come to spend the day because it will take all day to sell the items. There's something for everybody. Bring the family.

See you at the Auction!

Dorthe Dee Evans

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