

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMERCE COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Julia Lynn at 8:40 a.m. on Tuesday, March 10, 2015, 548-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator Oletha Faust-Goudeau – Excused
Senator Mary Pilcher-Cook – Excused
Senator Jeff Longbine – Excused
Senator Susan Wagle – Excused
Senator Tom Holland – Excused
Senator Jim Denning – Excused

Committee staff present:

Reed Holwegner, Legislative Research Department
Debbie Bartuccio, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant
Chuck Reimer, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Gavin Schieber
Jared Baugh

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

Presentation on:

Chairperson Lynn recognized Gavin Schieber and Jared Baugh, who made a presentation on the SkillsUSA program. ([Attachment 1](#)) ([Attachment 2](#))

The presenters shared their experiences in the SkillsUSA program including the following information:

- SkillsUSA is a career and technical student organization serving more than 320,000 high school and college students.
- The objective of SkillsUSA is to give students real world experience in their skilled trade and in professional development.
- The program offers skill competitions, leadership conference, and professional development competitions.

They stated the Olathe Advanced Technical Center is a part of the Olathe School 21st Century High School Programs. Career and technical education programs are two year programs. Students interested in these programs attend the program location for a half-day and their home high school for a half-day during their junior and/or senior year.

They reported Career and Technical Education programs work for business:

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Commerce at 8:40 a.m. on Tuesday, March 10, 2015, 548-S of the Capitol.

- The skilled trades are the hardest jobs to fill in the United States, with recent data citing 806,000 jobs open in the trade, transportation and utilities sector, and 293,000 jobs open in manufacturing.

- Middle-skill jobs, jobs that require education and training beyond high school but less than a bachelor's degree, are a significant part of the economy. Of the 55 million job openings created by 2020, 30 percent will require some college or a two-year associate degree.

At the conclusion of the question and answer session, Chairperson Lynn adjourned the meeting at 9:05 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2015.