

## MINUTES OF THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Steve Abrams at 1:30 pm on Monday, February 02, 2015, 144-S of the Capitol.

All members were present

Committee staff present:

Mark Savoy, Legislative Research Department  
Lauren Douglass, Legislative Research Department  
Erna Fabert, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant  
Jason Long, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Senator Forrest Knox  
Tricia Stockebrand  
Gary Musselman, Executive Director, KSHSAA  
Gerald Meier, President, KS Assoc. of Middle Level Educators, Board Member, KS Assoc. of Middle Level Administrators

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

### **Possible bill introductions**

Chairperson Abrams asked committee members for bill introductions. Dodie Wellshear, of USA Kansas and the Kansas Superintendent's Association, and Mark Desetti, KNEA, introduced a bill relating to amending the professional negotiations act. *Senator Baumgardner moved, with a second by Senator Arpke, that the Senate committee sponsor the bill. Motion carried.*

On behalf of Dale Dennis, Kansas State Department of Education, Chairperson Abrams then introduced a conceptual bill that would address some cleanup issues not addressed in prior legislation. *Senator Arpke moved, with a second by Senator Pettey, that the Senate committee sponsor the bill. Motion carried.* There were no other bill introductions.

### **Hearing on: SB60 — Participation by homeschooled students in activities regulated by the Kansas state high school activities association.**

Chairperson Abrams opened the hearing on **SB60** and asked Jason Long, staff revisor, to review the bill for the Committee.

He then introduced Senator Forrest Knox, who testified in support of the bill. Senator Knox reported that the intention of this legislation is equal protection under the law, allowing all residents, all tax payers in the district, due process in their property interest in the free public education provided for by the Kansas Constitution. He further testified that private school families, just like everyone else, pay the taxes that fund public schools and therefore they should not be excluded from those public school programs. [\(Attachment 1\)](#) [\(Attachment 2\)](#)

## CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Education at 1:30 pm on Monday, February 02, 2015, 144-S of the Capitol.

Senator Knox then presented testimony in support of **SB60** on behalf of Les and Natasha Miller who were unable to attend in person due to family illness. ([Attachment 3](#))

Tricia Stockebrand then testified in support, stating that an online program their daughter had taken so she could participate in sports did not work well due to their remote location and the fact that the program was not well designed. Ms. Stockebrand further emphasized that the state, not the KSHSAA, should make decisions about who might participate in extracurricular activities at state funded schools. ([Attachment 4](#))

Written testimony in support of **SB60** was provided by the following: Collin and Shalin Klein ([Attachment 5](#)); Gary Brockus ([Attachment 6](#)); Wendy Phelan ([Attachment 7](#)); Abby Swygard ([Attachment 8](#)); Elisha Rasmussen ([Attachment 9](#)); Jessica Cole ([Attachment 10](#)); Molly Cole ([Attachment 11](#)); and Tracy Sealine ([Attachment 12](#)).

Speaking in opposition to **SB60** was Gary Musselman who addressed the issues of verifying academic standards, the cost of bringing in additional students and eligibility standards. ([Attachment 13](#))

Jerry Meier also spoke in opposition, addressing the issues of behavior and discipline, possible unethical recruiting methods resulting in the selection of specialized sports teams and the possibility of requiring different standards and guidelines for homeschooled versus public school students. ([Attachment 14](#))

Providing written testimony in opposition was the Kansas Music Educators Association ([Attachment 15](#)).

There being no further conferees, the hearing on **SB60** was closed.

### **Hearing on:**

Chairperson Abrams then announced that due to time constraints, the hearing on **SB93 - An Act concerning postsecondary education; relating to postsecondary career technical education performance-based funding; amending K.S.A. 2014 Supp. 72-4490 and repealing the existing section** would be rescheduled for Tuesday, February 3, 2015.

Chairperson Abrams adjourned the meeting at 2:30 pm.

The next meeting of the Senate Education Committee will be Tuesday, February 3, 2015 at 1:30 pm in Room 144-S of the Capitol.