

MINUTES OF THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Steve Abrams at 1:30 pm on Wednesday, February 11, 2015, 144-S of the Capitol.

All members were present

Committee staff present:

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

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

No conferees present

Others in attendance:

No list available

Possible action on bills previously heard SB32 — Requiring school district and state department of education audits; creating the efficient operation of schools task force.

Chairperson Abrams called for discussion and possible final action on **SB32**.

Jason Long, staff revisor, distributed and explained a balloon amendment that would amend the amendment offered by Senator Baumgardner at a previous meeting.

[\(Attachment 1\)](#)

Discussion ensued regarding the new amendment. In response to a question Mr. Long explained that this amendment would supersede the prior Baumgardner amendment.

Senator Arpke moved, Senator Melcher seconded, to approve the Baumgardner balloon amendment. Motion carried.

The staff revisor then distributed a second balloon amendment that would split the cost of the audits with the school districts. Senator Melcher, who authored the amendment, gave further details to the Committee.

[\(Attachment 2\)](#)

In response to a question concerning what funds the schools would use to pay for these audits, Mr. Long responded that probably the same funds available for compliance audits would be used.

Senator Melcher moved, Senator Arpke seconded, to approve the second balloon amendment. Motion carried.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Education at 1:30 pm on Wednesday, February 11, 2015, 144-S of the Capitol.

Chairperson Abrams asked if there were any further balloon amendments to be presented for **SB32**. There were none.

Senator Arpke moved, Senator Melcher seconded, to favorably pass out SB32, as amended. Motion carried.

Possible action on bills previously heard SB60 — Participation by homeschooled students in activities regulated by the Kansas state high school activities association.

Chairperson Abrams called for discussion and possible final action on **SB60**.

Jason Long, staff revisor, briefly reviewed the bill for the Committee. He then distributed a balloon amendment offered by Senator Pettey. He explained that this amendment would require that students be enrolled in at least one credit course, it would strike language concerning age requirements, and it would require participation fees be paid by the student participating in the activity. ([Attachment 3](#))

Discussion followed concerning the requirement of a credit course and how that would affect the fulltime enrollment counts at the schools, thereby creating a fiscal note for the State.

Senator Tyson asked if a decision on this bill could be delayed until a fiscal note for additional costs can be provided and Senator Baumgardner asked if a vote could be taken on just the portion of the balloon that pertains to participation fees.

Senator Pettey responded that she would like to see the students participating in school activities other than sports or other extracurricular activities, therefore, it is her preference to have the entire balloon amendment voted upon.

Chairperson Abrams clarified that most districts already allow students who have enrolled in limited classes to participate in band, choir, debate, and other such activities, whereby Mr. Long pointed out that **SB60** as written would allow students who live within a school district to participate in any activities regardless of whether they are enrolled or not.

Chairperson Abrams announced that further discussion of **SB60** would be postponed until a fiscal note could be provided.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.

The next meeting of the Senate Education Committee will be Thursday, February 12, 2015 at 1:30 pm in Room 144-S of the Capitol.