

MINUTES OF THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Steve Abrams at 1:30 pm on Monday, February 15, 2016, 144-S of the Capitol.

All members were present

Committee staff present:

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

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

No conferees present

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

Discussion & possible action on: SB388 — Requiring the state board of regents to adopt a policy on awarding credit hours based on CLEP test results.

Chairperson Abrams called for final action on **SB388**. He reminded the committee members that three amendments to the bill had been presented at the February 11 meeting, however, the Committee did not wish to proceed until clarification had been provided by the Kansas Board of Regents (KBOR) concerning the first of the three amendments. Revisor Long summarized KBOR's response to those issues. ([Attachment 1](#))

Also included is a response to Senator Hensley's question from the February 10 discussion on **SB356** which had previously been provided electronically to Committee members.

Senator Schmidt moved, Senator Baumgardner seconded, to approve the first amendment in the balloon, with the language as originally presented. Motion carried. ([Attachment 2](#))

*Senator Schmidt moved, Senator Pyle seconded, to recommend **SB388** as amended, favorably for passage. Motion carried.*

Possible action on bills previously heard SB357 — Requiring a longitudinal reading program study by the department of education.

Chairperson Abrams opened discussion on **SB357**. Revisor Long reviewed the bill and answered questions.

Chairperson Abrams indicated that this bill addresses the issues of requiring the review of more than one contract for whatever reading program the state chooses to use and trying to measure reading

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Education at 1:30 pm on Monday, February 15, 2016 in Room 144-S of the Capitol.

scores after a school discontinues using a reading program.

Senator Arpke indicated that one of the chairperson's concerns has already been addressed by the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) as in 2015, in response to requests for proposals for reading programs, a vendor was selected and guaranteed a five year contract. Dale Dennis of the KSDE confirmed that in early November a one year reading contract, with the option to renew four times, had been signed.

Additional questions included whether it is possible for either party to decline the option, is the contract limited to only one vendor, would this bill take away local control in selecting vendors, are schools obligated to use the state's vendor and what would happen if the state cannot fund a five year obligation.

Senator Schmidt moved, Senator Pettey seconded, to strike all language until line 15 on page 2, and add the words "that were eligible" to Line 19 (the number of students **that were eligible and participating in the program**).

After further discussion about how state contracts are worded and a reminder that the vendors are required to report yearly to the Committee, Senator Schmidt withdrew her motion and Senator Pettey withdrew her second.

Chairperson Abrams then ended discussion on **SB357** and removed the bill from further consideration by the Committee.

With no further business before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 pm.

The next meeting of the Senate Education Committee will be on Wednesday, February 17, 2016 at 1:30 pm in Room 144-S of the Capitol.