

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Minutes

The twelfth meeting of the Education Committee convened at 1:20 P.M., Thursday afternoon, February 14, 1963 in Room 505 with Chairman Bower presiding. All the members were present except Messrs. Dreiling and Teter. Messrs. Finney, Smith and Unruh had been previously excused.

The meeting was called expressly to work on the proposed unification bill with the hope of introducing the bill the next morning.

Material was distributed that had been written by the bill drafting department replacing parts of the proposed bill. After a discussion of Section 5 of this material, it was decided by a show of hands to adopt the new Section 5 to provide four rural and three city members on the planning board, and to make them representative of the various types of districts in the County. Mr. Nesmith asked that Section 3 be changed to have two planning units in Johnson County. Some of the Committee members questioned making Johnson County an exception, pointing out that the reason for the bill was to unify the districts over the State. It was decided to appoint a subcommittee of Messrs. Nesmith, Edwards and Tillotson to study the matter. It was voted unanimously to change Section 7 to correspond with the new Section 5.

Mr. McCall, Chairman of the subcommittee consisting of Messrs. Dixon, Edwards, Hughes and Harder, reported on the requirements for unification; Section 10, subsection "C" to provide for 750 pupils,

but nevertheless allow four districts per County; except Subsection "G" be changed from "one-half or more" to "more than one-half of the territory of each proposed unified district within the home County. Mr. Fred Carmen of the Bill Drafting Department suggested that in (c) the words, "except that" be changed to "provided however:" and that the word "less" would be better than "fewer." Mr. Casado made a motion that section (c) be introduced into the bill as discussed. The motion carried.

Paragraph (h) should be changed to "district shall be comprised of one contiguous compact area". Subsection "j" should be deleted.

Mr. Boyd reported as Chairman of the subcommittee consisting of Messrs. Dreiling, Crow, Vogel and Robinson on timetable and methods of elections. Mr. Carmen suggested replacing the wording in the first paragraph of Section 11 down through the word "action" to clarify the responsibility of the State Superintendent. On the timetable, it was agreed to extend the target date to July 1, 1966. Deletion of the last sentence on the bottom of Page 12 was recommended with Mr. Carmen to draft a substitute. The subcommittee changed its recommendation to separate counting of votes by rural and urban electors within the planning unit rather than the unified district.

On the school board, the Committee recommended the three options which were offered in Senate Bill No. 400, election at large, from districts but elected at large, from districts and elected by those districts. Mr. Harder made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hughes,

that the Committee adopt the recommendation of Mr. Boyd's subcommittee. It was discussed limiting School Board members to two consecutive terms. The interim board would be the newly elected school board. School teachers' contracts must be taken care of. Exceptions to the moratorium on annexation and construction could be made by the State Superintendent. It was further discussed that transfer of territory be allowed by petition by the people to the State Superintendent as well as by the board or boards involved.

Mr. Lill made the motion, seconded by Mr. Harder, that the Committee prepare the bill for introduction tomorrow (Friday) as per the discussed recommendations. The motion carried with a vote of seven for and four against.

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

By John D. Bower
Chairman