

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

The meeting was called to order by Representative Don Crumbaker at  
Chairperson

3:30 ~~am~~/p.m. on February 15, 1983 in room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present:

Avis Swartzman, Revisor of Statutes  
Ben Barrett, Legislative Research  
Richard Ryan, Legislative Research  
Dale Dennis, State Department of Education  
JoAnn Mann, Secretary to the Committee

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Committee discussion continued on School Finance.

The motion on the floor when the prior meeting adjourned was a motion by Rep. Reardon to include a 1.5% increase over and above whatever subsequent budget limitations were set and that the increase was to be used for teachers' salaries.

Representative Reinhardt made a substitute motion that 3/4 percent increase in budget authority be allowed for classroom teachers, that it be outside professional negotiations, that it be for only the 1983-84 school year, and the distribution would be at the discretion of the local school boards. Representative Vancrum seconded the motion and the motion failed.

As there appeared to be no further substitute motions, Chairman Crumbaker announced that the committee revert to the original motion of Representative Reardon.

Representative Apt opposed the motion for three reasons: (1) it was not practical, (2) in the present state of economy, we need to talk about a specified number of dollars and (3) she was in favor of taking a hard look at merit pay and suggested that the Committee request an interim study on the subject.

Voting was held on Representative Reardon's motion and the motion failed, 9-11. Representatives Laird, Reardon, Myers, Hensley and Helgerson asked that they be recorded as having cast an affirmative vote.

Representative Moomaw stated that with unemployment at the highest rate since 1940, he would offer a conceptual motion that there be no increase in budget authority and no increase in the amount of state funding. Representative Polson seconded the motion.

Representative Leach opposed the motion as did Representative Laird who said it was an unbelievable motion. Mr. Laird stated that no one had even mentioned the severance tax and that it was irresponsible to even consider a zero increase.

Representative Brady made a substitute conceptual motion to allow a 3/4 percent increase in authority to be used for teachers salaries under the professional negotiation law. Representative Helgerson seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Representative Smith made a motion to set budget limitations at 2-4% with 47% state funding. Representative Hassler seconded the motion.

Representative Leach offered a substitute motion to set budget limits at 5-10% with 48% state funding. This would mean a \$28 million property tax increase and a \$62 million increase in state funding. Representative Helgerson seconded the motion and the motion failed 9-11.

Representatives Reardon, Laird, Hensley and Helgerson asked that they be recorded as having cast an affirmative vote.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION,

room 423-S, Statehouse, at 3:30 ~~a.m.~~/p.m. on February 15, 1983.

Representative Apt made a substitute motion to set budget limits at 2.5-6% with 4% state funding. Representative Lowther seconded the motion and the motion failed 8-12.

Voting was held on Representative Smith's motion and the motion failed.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting.