

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONThe meeting was called to order by Representative Don Crumbaker at
Chairperson3:30 ~~am~~/p.m. on February 24, 1983 in room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representatives Lowther and Leach, who were excused.

Committee staff present:

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

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Phyllis Kelly, Special Education Coordinator for Paraprofessionals
Fran Blake, Paraprofessional, USD 259 Wichita
John Koepke, Kansas Association of School Boards
Charles Johns, Kansas-National Education Association

HB 2440 - Boards of education authorized to employ paraprofessionals and aides for instructional purposes.

Phyllis Kelly, Special Education coordinator for paraprofessionals in Wichita, appeared in support of the legislation. She stated that the State Board of Education sets up rules and regulations but presently, there is nothing in them regarding a regular classroom program. Passage of HB 2440 would (1) protect paraprofessionals by legally defining their role; (2) protect teachers by having the State Board set up rules and regulations; (3) allow boards of education to employ paraprofessionals to legally permit assistance in the instructional area.

Fran Blake, paraprofessional from Wichita, told the committee she was proud to be a para. She chose not to be a teacher as she felt she was more effective as a para. She had good rapport with the USD 259 board of education and appreciated their support. Because of her secure feeling as a para, she believed this legislation would give others this same feeling of security which they do not have at the present time.

John Koepke, Kansas Association of School Boards, supported HB 2440 and believed it would be a wise decision to pass the legislation favorably. Presently, the law is somewhat cloudy regarding the role of paraprofessionals and this legislation would clarify the issue.

Charles Johns, K-NEA, opposed the legislation and a copy of his testimony is attached. (Attachment A)

HB 2218 - Unified school district No. 380, land transfer to Corning, Kansas authorized.

Representative Polson made a motion to amend to insert the correct legal description of the land and buildings. Representative Fuller seconded the motion and the motion carried. Representative Polson moved that HB 2218 be passed favorably as amended and Representative Reardon seconded. The motion carried.

HB 2443 - Unified school district No. 350, land transfer.

Representative Hassler made a motion to pass HB 2443 favorably and place on the consent calendar. Representative Fuller seconded and the motion carried.

HB 2492 - Unified school district No. 284, land transfer authorized.

Representative Fuller made a motion to pass HB 2492 favorably and place on the consent calendar. Representative Laird seconded and the motion carried.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION,
room 423-S, Statehouse, at 3:30 ~~am~~/p.m. on February 24, 1983.

HB 2491 - Unified school district No. 494, land transfer.

Representative Moomaw made a motion to amend to include the buildings on the land transfer. Representative Miller seconded and the motion carried.

Representative Moomaw then moved that HB 2491 be reported favorably as amended and Representative Miller seconded. The motion carried.

HB 2325 - Community colleges, restrictions relative to out-district tuition levies and payments.

Representative Myers made a motion to pass HB 2325 favorably and Representative Kline seconded.

Representative Fuller offered a substitute motion to amend to include the provision that no out-district tuition shall be charged to or paid by any county for any student attending a community college whose residence outside the community college district is in a county in which there is located a Regent institution. Representative Helgeson seconded and the motion failed.

Voting was held on the original motion and the motion carried.

HB 2326 - Counties; restrictions on home rule powers with regard to out-district tuition.

Representative Myers made a motion to pass HB 2326 favorably and Representative Kline seconded. The motion carried.

HB 2314 - Postsecondary educational institutions, credit for military service-connected education.

Representative Laird moved that HB 2314 be reported favorably and Representative Hensley seconded.

Representative Murphy made a substitute motion to table and Representative Apt seconded. The motion carried.

HB 2454 - Community colleges, capital outlay levy.

Representative Hensley made a motion to amend on line 25 and insert "two" in lieu of "one". Representative Apt seconded and the motion carried.

Representative Hensley moved that HB 2454 be reported favorably as amended and Representative Apt seconded. The motion carried.

HB 2444 - Vocational education capital outlay state aid, community college participation.

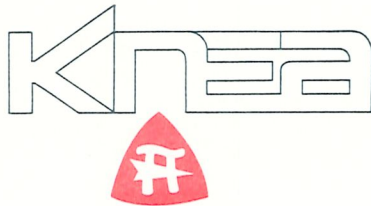
Representative Myers moved that HB 2444 be reported favorably and Representative Hassler seconded. The motion failed.

HB 2266 - Representative Hassler moved to pass HB 2266 favorably and Representative Kline seconded. Following committee discussion, the motion and second were withdrawn.

HB 2188 - Community education act, grants-in-aid to community education agencies.

Representative Myers made a motion to amend by striking the language in lines 68-93. Representative Brady seconded and the motion carried.

The meeting adjourned.



Testimony
before the
House Education Committee
on
HB 2440
February 24, 1983

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Charles W. Johns, representing the Kansas-National Education Association. I appear before you today in opposition to HB 2440.

The present wording of the statute states Boards of Education may employ noncertified personnel to supervise pupils for noninstructional activities. We agree with this provision.

We disagree with the proposed change that states in part Boards of Education may employ regular classroom paraprofessional personnel to assist professional staff in providing for instructional and noninstructional services for the students.

At a time when we are trying to strengthen the standards for teachers and improve the quality of education, this proposal would ensure that unqualified, uncertificated personnel would be in charge of instruction. If, in fact, it is the intent of the state of Kansas to upgrade its educational system, passage of this measure would work against bringing a higher standard of professionalism to the system.

We see this as a means to reduce the number of certificated teachers by utilizing instructional aides under the supervision of fewer certified teachers.

We are supporting a proposal for teacher preparation that would include raising the admission standards prior to admittance into the school of education, require early field experiences, professional growth for faculties, and a requirement that students graduating from a school of education take the professional educators' board, and would be supervised by a master panel during their entry year into the profession.

This bill, HB 2440, appears to be diametrically opposed to the concept of improvement in instruction.

Argument which we have heard that "the districts are already doing this", and that we just want to make it legal are totally unfounded. If that's the case, then let us legalize marijuana, 70 mph speed limits, etc., because they're doing it anyway.

It would appear to us that if it is being done -- by that I mean duties outside the current law -- that the practice should be stopped.

Thank you for the opportunity to appear and express



SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

FOREST TIM WITSMAN
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

COUNTY COURTHOUSE, • 525 N. MAIN, • WICHITA, KANSAS 67203-3703 • TELEPHONE 268-7575

Representative Wanda Fuller
District 87
House Education Committee

This letter is in response to your inquiry regarding our experience in Sedgwick County with the community college tuition subsidies.

Our actual payments in 1982 to various community colleges from all areas of the State totalled \$572,085. We project that, based on an 8% per year rise in claims, we will be expending over \$700,000 by 1985.

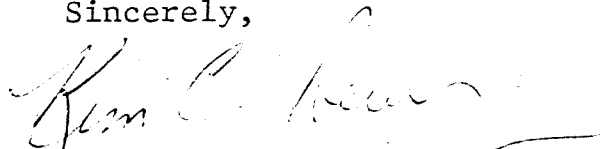
We currently receive quarterly statements from the various institutions giving us, in varying degrees of detail, information regarding Sedgwick County residents attending the college. Some statements include detail on the coursework, while others state only the number of hours being taken by the student. No information is supplied regarding the actual completion of courses, so presumably, the taxpayers are often providing support for uncompleted coursework. We have attempted, on occasion to obtain more detailed information on coursework and student's identities from the various institutions. In some cases, we have received excellent cooperation, but to our disdain, we have often received a rude and uncooperative response.

We would certainly be supportive of the amendment which you have indicated you intend to offer. We have three fine institutions of higher education in Sedgwick County, Wichita State University, Friends University, and Kansas Newman College. Wichita State is already supported directly by the taxpayers of our county through a 1.5 mill levy. All of the institutions are heavily supported through private, voluntary contributions from our citizens. The additional tax burden on our citizens to enable colleges outside of

Attch. B'

the county to offer courses at lower rates of tuition is rapidly getting out of hand. Your proposed amendment, requiring payment only on courses not offered by institutions in the county would be an important step towards controlling this situation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kim C. Dewey".

Kim C. Dewey
Sedgwick County
Intergovernmental Coordinator

Proposed Amendment to HB 2325

On page 2, following line 80, by inserting a new section as follows:

"New Sec. 2. (a) Subject to the provisions of subsection (b), no out-district tuition shall be charged to or paid by any county for any student attending a community college whose residence outside the community college district is in a county in which there is located a state educational institution under the control and supervision of the state board of regents.

(b) The provisions of subsection (a) shall not apply to any such out-district student when the course of study or program which the student selects, or a course of study or program which is substantially equivalent thereto, is not offered by the state educational institution which is located in the county in which such student resides.

(c) In addition to out-district state aid to which a community college is entitled under the provisions of K.S.A. 71-607, and amendments thereto, the community college shall be entitled to an amount of out-district state aid equal to the amount of out-district tuition disallowed under the provisions of this section.

(d) The state board of education, after consultation with the state board of regents, shall adopt rules and regulations prescribing criteria or guidelines for the purpose of determining which courses of study and programs offered in the community colleges are substantially equivalent to the courses of study and programs offered by each state educational institution. A current, complete list of such courses of study and programs shall be maintained on file in the state department of education, and shall be open for public inspection at any reasonable time."

By renumbering sections 2 and 3 as sections 3 and 4, respectively;