

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

The meeting was called to order by SENATOR JOSEPH C. HARDER at
Chairperson

1:30 ~~am~~/p.m. on TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1984 in room 254-E of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator Tom Rehorn, excused

Committee staff present:

Mr. Ben Barrett, Legislative Research Department
Ms. Carolyn Rampey, Legislative Research Department
Ms. Avis Swartzman, Legislative Revisor's Office
Mrs. Millie Randell, Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

SB 601 - An act concerning school districts; relating to the offering and maintenance of educational programs thereof (Angell)

Proponents:

Mr. Kenneth Rogg, Schools for Quality Education
Mr. Michael O. Rooney, Superintendent, USD 476, Copeland
Mr. Onan Burnett, USD 501, Topeka
Mr. Craig Grant, Director of Political Action, K-NEA

Mr. John Koepke, Executive Director, Kansas Association of School Boards

Following a call to order by Chairman Joseph C. Harder, Senator Warren moved, and Senator Allen seconded the motion to approve minutes of the meetings of January 30 and January 31. The motion carried.

The Chairman announced that the hearing on SB 476, which had been scheduled for Thursday, February 9 had been postponed and that on the revised Agenda for Thursday the Committee will continue its hearings on Senate Bills 617 and 626. He also announced that there will be two Committee meetings on Monday, February 13: one at the regular time and one at 3:30 p.m.

The Chairman then recognized Senator Angell, author of SB 601, who explained the background and purpose of his bill. Senator Angell recommended amending his bill so that the agreement entered into (lines 0040 and 0041) would be for a term of not more than five years instead of "a term of not less than three years and not more than five years". After his explanation, Senator Angell requested the Chairman's permission to turn the floor over to Mr. Kenneth Rogg of Schools for Quality Education.

Mr. Kenneth Rogg stated that Schools for Quality Education supports SB 601 and that the bill originated as a result of recommendations made to Senator Angell by three of the member districts of Schools for Quality Education. Mr. Rogg then introduced Mr. Michael O. Rooney, Superintendent at Copeland, who testified in support of SB 601 on behalf of the Board of USD 476.

Mr. Michael O. Rooney stated that there were other representatives in attendance from his district who were supportive of SB 601, and he introduced Mr. John Bunnell, Vice-president of USD 476 and Regional Vice-president of Schools for Quality Education, which represents seventy-seven school districts; and Mr. Wade Patterson and Mr. Larry Fleming, both members of the USD 476 Board of Education. Mr. Rooney explained that SB 601 represented an attempt to provide the best education possible to all Kansas students. He further stated that the bill was patterned after a similar program that had worked successfully in Iowa and that it represented one alternative to consolidation.

Mr. Onan Burnett stated that the bill would not affect his district, USD 501, but that he feels it would help many other school districts in Kansas. He urged the Committee to recommend the bill favorably for passage.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION,
room 254-E, Statehouse, at 1:30 ~~am~~/p.m. on TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1984.

Mr. Craig Grant testified that K-National Education Association supports SB 601, and his testimony is found in Attachment 1.

Mr. John Koepke described SB 601 as being the most innovative piece of legislation that had surfaced in a number of years. He stated that declining enrollment, pupil-teacher ratios, and possible monetary savings are some good reasons for enactment of the bill. Mr. Koepke stated that although the Kansas Association of School Boards had not yet taken a formal position on the measure, a poll of its members has shown an overwhelming, favorable response to the measure. He noted that the bill would not change the budget limits of the districts involved and urged the Committee to report the bill favorably for passage.

Following Mr. Koepke's testimony, the Chairman announced that the hearing on SB 601 was concluded.

When the Chairman called for action on SB 520, Senator Bogina moved, and Senator Warren seconded the motion to report SB 520 favorably for passage, and the motion carried.

Following a call for action on SB 502, Senator Montgomery moved, and Senator Parrish seconded the motion to report SB 502 favorably for passage. The motion carried.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting.

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

TIME: 1:30 p.m. PLACE: 254-E DATE: Tuesday, February 7, 1984

GUEST LIST

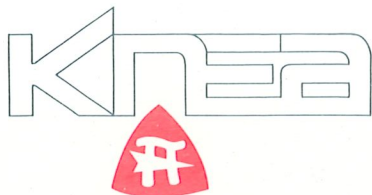
<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>
Glen Sewell	Lawrence	Sen. Rehorn
John Bunnell	Copeland, Kans.	USD 476, SQE
John Fleming	Copeland, Kans.	USD 476
Barry March	Copeland, Kans.	
Joan Umund	Copeland, Kans.	
Wade Patterson	Copeland, Kans.	USD 476
Dean Schadel	Alexander, KS	USD 496
Dennis Denney	Lawrence	Sen. Kan
Mike Korum	Copeland, KS	USD 476/SQE
Mary Ellen Liron	Topeka, Mo.	Lg. of Women Voters of Mo.
Ruth Wilber	" "	AAUP

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

TIME: 1:30 p.m. PLACE: 254-E DATE: Tuesday, February 7, 1984

GUEST LIST

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>
A Thayer	502 N Cain - Liberal	
Lila Thayer	502 N. Cain - Liberal	
Bill Clarke	Wichita	U.S.A. 259
Merle Hae	Topeka	KACC
John Kroyer	Topeka	KASB
Allen Zimbrano	Topeka	to Active Children
M P McKENNEY	Topeka	U.S.A. KAWJA
Curtis Stalls	Box 270 Newton	parent
Craig Grant	Lawrence	HI-NEA
Bill Curtis	Topeka	KASB
Ten Rogg	Paola	S J E
Jim Zavallo	Shawnee Mission	USD #512



Craig Grant Testimony Before
Senate Education Committee
February 7, 1984

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am Craig Grant and I represent Kansas-NEA. I appreciate the opportunity to visit with you about SB 601.

Kansas-NEA is in support of SB 601. We feel that if two or more districts wish to enter into agreements proving the sharing of facilities and resources, those districts should have the right to do so. I believe that districts would enter into such contracts for two reasons: one, to economize and better utilize their resources; and two, to provide improved educational opportunities for students in the districts. Kansas-NEA applauds both reasons.

SB 601 does not deal with what would happen to the individual teachers involved in such an agreement. Kansas-NEA believes that this topic is one that can and should be dealt with at the local level--through the negotiations process or other processes which determine terms and conditions of employment. As an aside, Kansas-NEA believes that any displaced teachers, as a result of the agreement reached under SB 601, should be given first opportunity for open positions in the neighboring district or districts who are part of the agreement.

As the committee knows, school closings and school consolidations are often highly emotional topics. Kansas-NEA believes that SB 601 would provide a possible solution to this problem while still allowing districts to economize.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, for listening to the concerns of teachers.

Attachment 1