

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

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

1:30 ~~xxx~~/p.m. on TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 19⁸⁴ in room 254-E of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present:

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

Conferees appearing before the committee:

SB 712 - Compulsory attendance of children at school, exemptions for
home schooling, conditions (Hess, by request)

Opponents:

Dr. Bill Curtis, Assistant Executive Director, Kansas Association
of School Boards
Mr. Craig Grant, Director of Political Action, K-NEA
Dr. Jerry Schreiner, Executive Director, United School Administrators

HB 2768 -

Proponents:

Mr. Craig Grant, Director of Political Action, K-NEA
Dr. Bill Curtis, Assistant Executive Director, Kansas Association
of School Boards

HB 2618 - Schools, duration of school day and school term; defining pupil.
Re Proposal No. 18 (Spec. Comm. on Education)

Proponents:

Dr. Bill Curtis, Assistant Executive Director, Kansas Association
of School Boards
Mr. Craig Grant, Director of Political Action, K-NEA
Mr. M. D. McKenney, Associate Director, United School Administrators
Ms. Heather Bussing, law student, intern for Senator Rehorn

Mr. Onan Burnett, USD 501, Topeka

Following a call to order by Chairman Joseph C. Harder, the Chairman announced that the hearing on SB 712, relating to home schooling, would be continued and that the opponents who had relinquished their time yesterday to the proponents would be testifying. He then recognized Dr. Bill Curtis of KASB, and Dr. Curtis's testimony is found in Attachment 1.

When Mr. Craig Grant of K-NEA was called upon to testify, he said that he is opposed to SB 712 and that he agrees with the statements made by Dr. Bill Curtis of KASB. He further stated that schools are trying to prepare children for a lifetime environment and that a school setting is the proper place for this development.

Dr. Jerry Schreiner, who was unable to be in attendance today, asked that his name, on behalf of United School Administrators, be listed among the opponents of SB 712.

The Chairman said that SB 712 will be taken under advisement until a later time.

SB 2768 - When Mr. Craig Grant of K-NEA was called upon to testify as a proponent of HB 2768, Mr. Grant reviewed a brief history of the bill and explained how it had been amended by the House. He said that he preferred the original notification times of April 15 and May 15 and a "30-day window" period.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION,
 room 254-E, Statehouse, at 1:30 ~~xxx~~ a.m./p.m. on TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 1984

Dr. Bill Curtis of KASB testified as a proponent of HB 2768, and his testimony is found in Attachment 2.

HB 2618 - When Dr. Bill Curtis testified as a proponent of HB 2618, he stated that the bill contains two major changes which are different from current law and explained how these changes affect twelfth grade students who, he said, are the only students affected by the bill. Dr. Curtis said he took no position on counting students in grade twelve for SDEA purposes but that he does favor counting college credit hours toward their full class time enrollment. He further stated that he is concerned with better utilizing present class time without increasing that amount of time.

Mr. Craig Grant, testifying in favor of HB 2618 on behalf of K-NEA, stated that he supports the language change contained in lines 0117 through 0125. He said that he supports the bill as it is presently written for the same reasons as those outlined by Dr. Curtis and urged passage of the bill as it is now printed. He said he felt that it would encourage a school district to keep the students in class for that sixth-hour period for the purpose of counting them as full time students. Mr. Grant reported that there is no fiscal note attached to the bill but said it affects how state aid is distributed.

When Mr. M. D. McKenney of United School Administrators responded to the Chairman's invitation for others in the room to be heard, he stated that the bill, as amended by the House, offers great flexibility for students, including giving some students the opportunity to enroll in work-study programs. He said that although this program is utilized now, the amended bill would offer greater flexibility to a greater number of students.

Ms. Heather Bussing a law student intern for Senator Rehorn, reflected upon her experiences as a senior in high school. Ms. Bussing said she thought HB 2618 would be beneficial for seniors who had fulfilled most of their graduation requirements.

Mr. Onan Burnett testified that the concept of 175 days of school was primarily directed at the more gifted students. He said that HB 2618 would allow consistency to that concept and urged the Committee to pass the bill favorably. Mr. Burnett said he supported a 1,050-hour minimum school year term for seniors and 1,080 hours for the students in each of the other grades.

Mr. Chuck Stewart, superintendent at Clay Center, who was present at the meeting, volunteered to respond to Committee questions relating to the subject contained in HB 2618.

Following testimony on HB 2618, the Chairman asked the Committee's pleasure regarding HB 2618. Senator Warren moved, and Senator Montgomery seconded the motion that HB 2618 be recommended favorably for passage, and the motion carried.

The Chairman announced that HB 2738 had been added to the agenda for Thursday, and he adjourned the meeting.

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

TIME: 1:30 p.m. PLACE: 254-E DATE: Tuesday, March 13, 1984

GUEST LIST

NAME	ADDRESS	ORGANIZATION
Bill Shirks	Wichita	USA-259
Craig Grant	Lawrence	K-NEA
J. W. "Doubt"	Topeka	AG
Charles L. Stewart	Clay Center	USD 379
Bill Curtis	Topeka	KASB
Ellen Gumberson	Topeka	Coalition for Children
Cheryl Hawkins	Overland Park, KS	PTA-Shawnee M.S.
Donna Owens	" "	" "
Ken Rogg	Paola	SDG
Donna Miller	Westwood, KS	PTA-Shawnee Mission
John Hays	Topeka	Division of the Budget
Dean Burnett	Topeka	USA 5017
Merle Hlee	Topeka	KACC
Lynn Moore	Shawnee, KS.	PTA-Shawnee Mission
Gail Uzelac	Shawnee, KS.	PTA Shawnee "
Virginia Henderson	Shawnee, KS.	PTA-Shawnee Mission
Alice Kuhl	Overland Park, KS	
Mary Ellen Dimer	Topeka	Ls. of Women Voters
Heather Bussing	Law.	Renom

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

TIME: _____ PLACE: _____ DATE: _____

GUEST LIST

NAME

ADDRESS

ORGANIZATION

Caroline Curtis

937 Switzer, Oakland Park

PTA (S.M.)

Deanna M. Brown

Rt 1 Newton.

M. D. MCKENZIE

KANSAS
ASSOCIATION



OF
SCHOOL
BOARDS



5401 S. W. 7th Avenue Topeka, Kansas 66606
913-273-3600

Testimony on S.B. 712
before the
Senate Education Committee
by
Bill Curtis, Assistant Executive Director
Kansas Association of School Boards

March 13, 1984

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, we appreciate the opportunity to appear before you today and offer testimony on S.B. 712. The Kansas Association of School Boards has long advocated a position which would require private and parochial schools to meet the same standards as those imposed upon public schools. Therefore, we would oppose S.B. 712.

From our viewpoint, there are two major concerns with S.B. 712. First, there is no mention of a minimum program which must be offered and second, neither is there any reference to the qualifications of the teacher. Current law speaks to these two issues although the reference to teacher qualifications is somewhat ambiguous. S.B. 712 would require only that the child spend an equivalent period of time in instruction and pass minimum competency examinations.

While recognizing that there is a wide divergence of opinion over the role of the State of Kansas in educating children, the Kansas Association of School Boards strongly believes current law is preferable over that proposed by S.B. 712. Therefore, we would urge you to report S.B. 712 adversely.

KANSAS
ASSOCIATION



OF
SCHOOL
BOARDS



5401 S. W. 7th Avenue Topeka, Kansas 66606
913-273-3600

Testimony on H.B. 2768, as Amended
by
Bill Curtis, Assistant Executive Director
Kansas Association of School Boards

March 13, 1984
Senate Education Committee

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, we appreciate the opportunity to appear before you today in support of H.B. 2768. The bill was introduced by the House Education Committee at the request of the Kansas Association of School Boards.

This past November the Delegate Assembly of the Kansas Association of School Boards, the body which determines the legislative policies of this association, approved a new policy which would support legislation that changes the date for teachers to notify boards of education of their intent not to return to the district from May 15 to May 1.

As amended in the House Education Committee, the date for boards of education to notify teachers of nonrenewal was also changed to April 1. KASB has a concern with that amendment and requests the bill be amended to its original language. As some Committee members will recall, one of the major arguments several years ago when the dates were changed from March 15 and April 15 to the present April 15 and May 15 was the undesirable situation of having a nonrenewed teacher in the classroom for eight to ten weeks. We would submit the same argument in this case and, again, request that the April 15 date remain. Furthermore, we do not believe there is a need for the "30-day window" as argued by K-NEA.

Many boards of education have expressed concern that the present teacher notification date works a hardship on boards in recruiting replacement staff members. This is primarily due to the fact that most teacher training institutions have completed the semester before May 15 and potential candidates are difficult to locate. If the date were moved back to May 1 most of these same institutions are still in session and candidates could be interviewed on campus. Thank you for your attention. We urge your support of H.B. 2768 as originally drafted.