

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 WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 1984 in room 254-E of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator Angell, excused Senator Rehorn, excused
Senator Kerr, excused Senator Winter, excused
Senator McCray, excused

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:

HB 3091 - Teacher certification, examination required for initial issuance
(Ways and Means)

Proponents:

Representative Santford Duncan
Mr. John Myers, Office of the Governor
Mr. Craig Grant, Director of Political Action, K-NEA
Dr. Jerry Schreiner, Executive Director, United School Administrators
Ms. Alicia Salisbury, Topeka, District 4, State Board of Education
Dr. William Curtis, Asst. Executive Director, Kansas Association of
School Boards

HB 3092 - School districts, Inservice education opportunities act
(Ways and Means)

Proponents:

Mr. John Myers, Office of the Governor
Mr. Craig Grant, Director of Political Action, K-NEA
Dr. Jerry Schreiner, Executive Director, United School Administrators
Ms. Alicia Salisbury, Topeka, District 4, State Board of Education
Dr. William Curtis, Asst. Executive Director, Kansas Association of
School Boards

SCR 1670 - A concurrent resolution directing the State Board of Education to conduct a review and study of associate degree programs and vocational education programs which it has authority to approve for state funding and to submit a plan to eliminate unnecessary duplication of the programs to the Legislative Educational Planning Commission. (Winter, Roitz, Werts)

HB 3091 - After calling the meeting to order, Chairman Joseph C. Harder recognized Representative Santford Duncan who testified for HB 3091. Representative Duncan noted the amendments to HB 3091 as adopted by the Committee of the Whole in the House of Representatives, and he explained the rationale for these amendments.

The Chairman next called upon Mr. John Myers of the Governor's Office. Mr. Myers stated that his testimony, Attachments 1 and 2, in support of both HB 3091 and HB 3092 had been distributed by the Committee secretary. He further stated that both bills are part of a comprehensive package recommended by the Governor but that the real issues are appropriations.

Mr. Craig Grant of K-NEA testified in support of HB 3091 and HB 3092 and said that HB 3091 would serve as an indicator for possible problems that might arise in the teaching profession. He said he was concerned that persons taking the initial test for validation instead of certification reasons might be charged a fee.

Dr. Jerry Schreiner stated that USA supports HB 3091 and HB 3092 but that he, too, is concerned that a fee might be charged to those people taking the test for validation instead of certification purposes. He said he supports the amendments to HB 3091 as adopted by the House.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION,

room 254-E Statehouse, at 1:30 ~~xx~~/p.m. on WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 1984.

Mr. Dale Dennis, State Department of Education, and Ms. Kathleen Homlish, Director of Certification, State Department of Education, were present to answer questions posed by the Committee in reference to the bills being heard.

Ms. Alicia Salisbury of the State Board of Education testified in support of HB 3091 and HB 3092 which, she said, are provisions for quality control for teachers. She said that approximately half of the states have certification testing for teachers and that it would be a beneficial tool for students attending other than Regents' institutions. Ms. Salisbury expressed special concern both for teachers who are already in the profession and for inservice training. She said that the local boards need some incentive to set up local inservice plans that would meet State Board requirements.

Dr. William Curtis stated that KASB supports both HB 3091 and HB 3092.

When the Chairman asked the Committee's pleasure regarding HB 3091, Senator Bogina moved, and Senator Montgomery seconded the motion to amend the bill by removing New Sec. 5 and renumbering the following sections. The amendment was adopted.

Senator Bogina made a conceptual motion to amend HB 3091 by striking "The" on line 0037; striking all the language on lines 0038, 0039, and 0040; and renumbering the following lines. This was seconded by Senator Parrish, and the amendment was adopted.

Senator Bogina then moved that HB 3091, as amended, be recommended favorably for passage. This was seconded by Senator Allen, and the motion carried.

When the Chairman called for action or discussion on HB 3092, Senator Bogina moved, and Senator Allen seconded the motion to recommend HB 3092 favorably for passage. The motion carried.

When the Chairman asked for discussion and/or action on SCR 1670, there was no response.

Senator Bogina moved, and Senator Montgomery seconded the motion to approve minutes of the meetings of March 14, March 15, and March 26. The motion carried.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting.

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

TIME: 11:30 a.m. PLACE: 254-E DATE: Wednesday, April 4, 1984

GUEST LIST

NAME

ADDRESS

ORGANIZATION

Ed A. Raps

Capitol

Secy.

Alicia Anderson

Topeka

St. Bd. of Education

Craig Grant

Lawrence

K-NEA

JSD

John F. Myers

Topeka

Budget

STATE OF KANSAS



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

State Capitol
Topeka 66612-1590

John Carlin Governor

Testimony to
Senate Education Committee
House Bill No. 3091
by John Myers
April 3, 1984

Mr. Chairman, Committee Members:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the opportunity to present the Governor's thoughts on House Bill No. 3091. As you know, the State Board and the Governor have recommended that teacher certification be strengthened in Kansas through a revised process that includes both certification testing and an "internship" for new teachers. The Governor has suggested that Kansas adopt the National Teacher Examination administered by the Educational Testing Service. This test is used in other states, and the validation of this test for use in Kansas could be accomplished in Fiscal Year 1985. The Governor has included in his FY 1985 Budget \$115,000 from the State General Fund and 1.5 FTE positions in the Department of Education for validation and implementation of a teachers certification testing process.

The Governor has been advised of a proposal which would require only \$60,000 from the general fund, as opposed to \$115,000, for validating the certification test in the first year. If the University of Kansas has confirmed that the validation can be accomplished at this reduced cost, the Governor would be supportive of the Department of Education contracting for services there rather than with the Educational Testing Service as originally planned.

House Bill No. 3091 would parallel the Governor's and the State Board's recommendations. Validation of a test selected by the State Board would occur in FY 1985. Spring 1986 graduates of teacher training institutions - students who are now sophomores - would be required to take the test for certification purposes.

The State Board, however, does not need the additional statutory authority contained in this bill to act on the Governor's recommendation. The only thing necessary for the Board to implement rules and regulations requiring certification examination is the funding recommended by the Governor in his FY 1985 budget.

These concerns aside, the Governor believes that certification examination of prospective teachers is important at this time, for several reasons. Most, if not all, other major professional occupations require licensing examinations as a credential indicating competence. These licensing examinations signify to the public that the individual holding such certification possesses certain abilities and has been trained according to certain criteria which qualify him or her to perform certain functions. The licensing examination also serves to guide the training of these persons in ways considered appropriate to ensure that quality services are delivered. Until now, teacher training institutions and students preparing for teaching have not been subjected to this credentialing process.

Support for this process does not mean that the Governor believes that substantial numbers of incompetent graduates are being produced by teacher training institutions. Indeed, it is likely that most, if not all, qualified graduates of Kansas teacher training institutions will pass any certification examination by the State Board with flying colors. However, if the people of Kansas are to be asked to provide additional public funds to improve the salary position of Kansas teachers, they should be ensured that individuals entering this profession meet certain minimum standards of training, competence and personal skills. Further, certification testing, as a part of a comprehensive package which includes an intern program for new teachers, enhanced in-service opportunities for those already in the system, and improved salaries, will go a long way toward increasing the quality of Kansas teachers and our education system as a whole.

Thank you, again, for allowing me to appear before you today.

STATE OF KANSAS



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

*State Capitol
Topeka 66612-1590*

John Carlin *Governor*

Testimony to
Senate Education Committee
on House Bill No. 3092
by John Myers
April 3, 1984

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the opportunity to present the Governor's views on House Bill No. 3092.

The Governor strongly supports the expansion of in-service education opportunities for Kansas teachers. The Governor has recommended FY 1985 funding in the budget of the Department of Education for several items included within a comprehensive teacher preparation and development plan. The State Board of Education supports the various elements of this plan including the expansion of in-service educational opportunities. Existing teachers in Kansas, many with exemplary service, desire the need to have ample opportunities to improve their skills.

The State Board has in place a set of criteria which provide guidelines for the promotion of in-service education for teachers. These criteria, known as the State Plan for In-Service Education, permit a district whose plan is in conformance with the State Plan to recertify its personnel through their participation in this local plan. Compliance with the State Plan, however, is voluntary, and there currently exists no state funding support for these local programs beyond what is available within basic budget limitation authority. The Governor believes that if the State assisted local districts with the costs associated with compliance, more districts would participate, and many more Kansas teachers would benefit.

The Governor has recommended funding of \$1 million for a state aid match program essentially the same as that proposed in House Bill No. 3092. In addition, the recommended FY 1985 budget of the Department of Education contains an additional professional staff position and one-half clerical staff position for implementation of increased participation in the State Plan. The proposed funding for FY 1985 for a new aid program for state in-service educational opportunities could be implemented by the State Board through rules and regulations.

If the Constitution is amended and the nature of the powers and the composition of the State Board are changed, the Legislature may wish to consider many statutory changes to current rules and regulations in a variety of areas. Or, the Legislature may wish to leave in place much of the current certification and recertification process. That decision, however, does not need to be made at this time.

Regardless of the outcome of current discussions concerning possible amendments to the Constitution, the Governor believes that the recommended appropriation of \$1.0 million to support in-service education aid to local districts should be approved. It is possible that, in accordance with the funding scheme outlined in House Bill No. 3092, participation by eligible districts in FY 1985 could exceed the amount of the recommended appropriation. The Governor recommends, and House Bill No. 3092 provides for, proration of the funds among eligible districts in that event.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the opportunity to present the Governor's views on this subject.