

Approved January 28, 1986
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

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

3:40 ~~xxx~~ p.m. on January 21, 1986 in room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative Kline, Polson, Laird. All were excused.

Committee staff present:

Avis Swartzman, Revisor of Statutes' Office
Ben Barrett, Legislative Research
Lynda Cory, Secretary to the Committee

Conferees appearing before the committee:

John Allen, Associated Students of Kansas
Dr. Robert Kelly, Kansas Independent College Association
Dr. Merle Hill, Kansas Association of Community Colleges
Connie Hubbell, State Board of Education
Craig Grant, Kansas-NEA

The Chairman welcomed Representative Branson, and then he opened the floor to any conferees in behalf of HB 2091.

Connie Hubbell from the State Board of Education read her testimony to the Committee. The State Board of Education recommends that HB 2091 be passed with a certification fee range of not less than \$18 and not more than \$24. (Attachment 1)

Craig Grant from KNEA stated that they had looked at the fee structure and were in favor of it. He estimated that this range would take care of fees for the next three or four years.

The Chairman concluded hearings on HB 2091 and requested that Avis Swartzman draw up an amendment to the changes requested by the State Board and KNEA. This would save introducing a new bill and asking the Committee to approve it.

John Allen, ASK representative, appeared before the Committee with a proposal for a student education opportunity guidebook that would include information on all of Kansas' post-secondary options. A student information guide from Utah was presented to the Committee as a sample. (Attachment 2)

Dr. Robert Kelly and Dr. Merle Hill both were in favor of this ASK proposal.

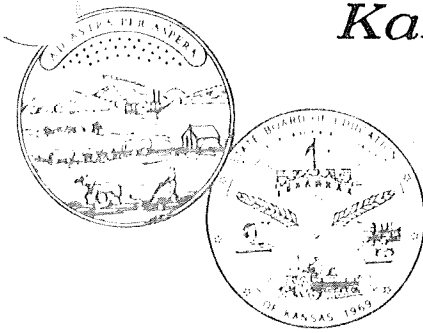
John Allen asked the Committee to introduce a bill for the following proposal: to extend the eligibility of state scholarships to five years, or ten semesters, in those programs requiring five years for a degree. The Chairman announced that the above proposals would be taken up by the Committee at a later date.

Meeting adjourned at 4:19 p.m.

Kansas State Board of Education

Kansas State Education Building

120 East 10th Street Topeka, Kansas 66612



Kay M. Groneman
District 1

Connie Hubbell
District 4

Bill Musick
District 6

Evelyn Whitcomb
District 8

Kathleen White
District 2

Ann L. Keener
District 5

Theodore R. Von Fange
District 7

Robert J. Clemons
District 9

Dale Louis Carey
District 3

January 21, 1986

Marion (Mick) Stevens
District 10

TO: House Education Committee

FROM: State Board of Education

SUBJECT: House Bill 2091--Certification Fees

My name is Connie Hubbell, Legislative Chairman of the State Board of Education. I appreciate the opportunity to appear before your Committee on behalf of the State Board.

The State Board requested that House Bill 2091 be introduced during the 1985 legislative session. After the introduction of the bill, but prior to the hearing, it was decided that by economizing we could get by one more year without an increase in certification fees. The Chairman of the House Education Committee was requested not to hold hearings on the bill.

The State Board has consulted with KNEA prior to reaching a recommendation for the 1986 session. It was decided that the law should be amended to authorize a fee range of not less than \$18 or more than \$24 per certificate.

The majority of Kansas teaching certificates are issued for three years or five years. The last time the Legislature authorized a certificate fee increase was 1982. Since that time, there has been a substantial increase in operating costs.

In summary, the State Board of Education recommends that House Bill 2091 be recommended for passage with a certification fee range of not less than \$18 and not more than \$24.

ATTACHMENT 1

January 21, 1986

HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE



ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF KANSAS

Suite 608, Capitol Tower 400 W. 8th
Topeka, Kansas 66603
(913) 354-1394

STUDENT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY GUIDE

A PROPOSAL BY THE
ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF KANSAS

PRESENTED TO
THE HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE
JANUARY 21, 1986

BY
JOHN L. ALLEN
DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

ATTACHMENT 2 January 21, 1986
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Representing the Students of:

Emporia State • Fort Hays State • Kansas State • Pittsburg State • University of Kansas • Washburn University • Wichita State

Good afternoon. My name is John L. Allen, and I am the Director of Legislative Affairs for the Associated Students of Kansas. Our association appreciates this opportunity to address the committee relatively early during the legislative process on an item of importance to the students of the state but that nonetheless might otherwise be overshadowed by other, more controversial matters as the session progresses. That matter is the **STUDENT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY GUIDE**.

I. THE PROPOSAL

A.S.K. developed, and the Board of Regents in their Fiscal Year 1987 "C" level budget included \$20,000 for, a proposal for a student information manual. This guide will serve as an introduction to Kansas' post-secondary system, including information on all post-secondary options, meaning Regent's institutions, community colleges, etc. It should also include information on career trends, the needs of the state, financial aid, admissions requirements, graduation standards and other germane information. It could probably best be described as an "Everything You Always Wanted To Know About Higher Education In Kansas."

Under our proposal, the Board of Regents would be designated as "publisher" for purposes of receiving the appropriation and making the necessary financial arrangements. An editorial advisory board, made up of representatives of all the post-secondary sectors, would meet to make decisions about content and design.

The actual production of the document, then, would be done by a "staff" of advanced journalism students working on a special-project arrangement. 70,000 copies would be produced, enough to distribute to every high school junior and college sophomore in the state. Based on these plans, the Kansas State University school of journalism estimated \$20,000 as the cost of production.

II. JUSTIFICATION

There is perhaps no more significant decision a person will make at any point than a choice of career and a course of study to prepare for that career. Given the importance of that decision, it is amazing that so many students make it based on rumor, misinformation, or, most often, no information at all. This is also frustrating because since most post-secondary decisions are made without the right information, most students find the right program for them only through trial and error, which amounts to a tremendous squandering of personal and societal resources.

All of this is particularly tragic since all of the information we need has been compiled in various forms and in various documents; the problem is getting it to the student for effective use. The most direct way of doing that is by putting it into a single document that can go directly to the student, and that will be written and designed at a level that the student can take advantage of it.

There are several advantages to this proposal. Retention has recently become a buzz-word in academic circles; I frankly think there is some reason to believe that part of the problem with students leaving school has to do with being in the wrong place to begin with. A more informed choice could very well be a better choice, and one that is less likely to lead to poor rates of retention.

Similarly, if a student is made to understand very clearly from the beginning what is expected of him academically, that student may well be better prepared to handle it. This might suggest that a document that lays out clearly the admissions policies, expectations and graduation standards of each school will help a student entering that school be in a better position to anticipate their requirements.

The state also has a tremendous financial investment in post-secondary education, both through direct finance of institutions and through student assistance. Every time a student makes a poor academic decision that leads to a change of major, an additional year in completing a program, or dropping out altogether, it costs the state money. From an efficiency perspective, this sort of information source will be invaluable; I would suggest that you should "make back" your investment in it very quickly.

Finally, this guide should be an asset from a "promotion" perspective as well. A student aware of only our Regent's institutions may well consider them too distant or foreboding, and decide to attend college elsewhere or not at all; but a student exposed to all of our post-secondary options is much more likely to find something that meets their needs. It is therefore possible that this guide will help to expand the total number of people participating in our post-secondary system.

III. CONCLUSION

From the foregoing it is quite obvious that we view this guide as possessing a number of desirable characteristics. There is, however, an additional selling point for this proposal, and that is its pricetag. We know, and you are even more aware, of the difficult financial situation the state faces. The low fiscal note of this program, however, makes it achievable even under the most draconian of financial scenarios.

It is for this reason that we appear before you today. We hope that this committee will lend its endorsement to this project and communicate that endorsement to the Ways and Means Committee. We fear that, despite its attractiveness, this project may be overlooked in the context of several larger issues. We therefore request your endorsement of the **STUDENT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY GUIDE**.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I know that other conferees are waiting to comment upon this issue.