

Approved February 27, 1986  
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

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

3:42 ~~3:42~~ p.m. on February 24, 1986 in room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Rep. Branson, Ramirez, who were excused

Committee staff present: Avis Swartzman, Revisor of Statute's Office  
Ben Barrett, Legislative Research  
Lynda Cory, Secretary to the Committee

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Barbara Sabol, Secretary, Kansas Department of Health and Environment  
Mrs. Dawn Merriman, Parents of North Central Kansas on Citizen's Advisory Committee of  
Governor's Cabinet Sub-Committee on Early Childhood Developmental Services  
Lila Paslay, Association for Retarded Citizens of Kansas  
Margaret Wares, Director, Independent Living Program of Developmental Services of  
Northwest Kansas (Hays, Kansas)  
Connie Hubbell, State Board of Education  
Elizabeth Taylor, Kansas Association for Education of Young Children  
Written Testimony by Dr. Robert Harder, Social Rehabilitation Services  
Craig Grant, Kansas-National Education Association  
Chris Graves and Kevin Elmore, Associated Students of Kansas  
Clantha McCurdy, Financial Aid, Kansas Board of Regents

The Chairman asked Barbara Sabol to present HB 3000 to the committee.

The Health and Environment's interest in this bill is earlier intervention of preschool handicapped services to help the children reach their full potential level without further delays in their development. Request for dropping lines 69-70 and 75 where PL 98-199 is mentioned; they do not care which federal grant provides the services. Ms. Sabol felt this could be an on-going program for at least four years, and then it would be reasonable for the state to pick it up at that time. Rep. Reardon requested a list of the people who attended the town meetings to discuss HB 3000. (Attachment 1)

Dawn Merriman supported HB 3000 in hopes that this program could become permanent before it may get lost in any administrative transitions at election time. (Attachment 2)

Lila Paslay, Margaret Wares, Connie Hubbell, and Elizabeth Taylor all supported HB 3000. (Attachment 3, 4)

Dr. Harder's handout explained the support of HB 3000 by SRS. (Attachment 5)

The Chairman concluded the hearings for HB 3000 and invited Chris Graves to introduce the spokesman for ASK to present HB 3003.

Kevin Elmore, from Kansas State University, supported HB 3003. He felt that the state scholarships should be extended to include the fifth year if the student was in a five-year program. (teaching, engineering, etc.) (Attachment 6)

Craig Grant supported HB 3003. He thought it may encourage students to enroll in the teacher education program. (Attachment 7)

Clantha McCurdy, speaking for the Board of Regents, opposed HB 3003. They thought by extending the scholarships to meet the five-year programs would stretch what few dollars were available and eliminate more eligible students who are in the four-year program. (Attachment 8)

The Chairman concluded the hearings for HB 3003. He asked for approval of the February 18 and 19 minutes; Rep. Miller moved, Rep. Hensley seconded; motion carried.

Adjourned at 4:34 p.m.

Unless specifically noted, the individual remarks recorded herein have not been transcribed verbatim. Individual remarks as reported herein have not been submitted to the individuals appearing before the committee for editing or corrections.

DATE 2-24-86

## GUEST REGISTER

## HOUSE

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE

NAME	ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS
CLANTHA McCURRY	BOARD OF REGENTS	TOPEKA
KEVIN ELMORE	ASSOC. STUDENTS OF KS	TOPEKA
CHRIS GRAVES	ASK	TOPEKA
Mark E. Tallman	KICA-KICF	"
Janelle Melieun	KDHE	TOPEKA
Traig Grant	K-NEA	Lawrence
Bill Curtis	KASB	TOPEKA
Ken Rogg	al Q E	Paola
Betty Winters	KSDE	TOPEKA
Art Schmitz	Tri-Co Spec Ed	Inde. Ks.
Loth Isrover	—	TOPEKA
Joan Stuhls	KAPS	Marhattan
ROBERT SABOL	KDHE	TOPEKA
Dawn Meneman	Parent	Salina
Margaret Bortigues	DSNWK	Hays
Lela Paslay	ARC/Kansas	TOPEKA
Al Nemes	MHARS	TOPEKA
Elizabeth Taylor	KAE/C	"
Gerald Newkum	USA	TOPEKA
Merle Hec	KACC	"
Conie Huesel	St. Bl 180	"
Almeda Edwards	Bd of Ed USD 290	Ottawa
Janice Claiborn	KLA - Pres of Franklin Co, KLA	Princeton, Ks
KATH R. LANDIS	CHRISTIAN SCIENCE COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION FOR KANSAS	TOPEKA

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

TESTIMONY ON HB

3000

PRESENTED TO House Committee on Education - Feb. 24, 1986

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

By applying estimated percentages to the births in Kansas, it is probable that at least 13,000 preschool children might be identified as handicapped within the first five years of life. It is projected that approximately 5,300 preschool children need special education in Kansas. Eighty percent of these children needing services are not receiving appropriate intervention under the current permissive status. In addition to educational services, these young children need health care and social services.

Meeting the multiple needs of these children and their families is a complex task. Recognizing that, Governor Carlin, established in April, 1984, a Cabinet Subcommittee on Early Childhood Developmental Services. The Governor's Task Force on Preschool Services for Handicapped Children had also recommended such action. This Subcommittee is composed of the Secretaries of the Departments of Health and Environment, Administration, and Social and Rehabilitation Services, the Commissioner of Education, and one public member - Joan Armstrong - Wichita. This Subcommittee was commissioned to develop and implement a plan for comprehensive, health, education and social services for preschool children at risk for or with handicapping conditions and their families.

STRENGTHS:

This bill would:

- continue the implementation of a state plan to improve and expand services for these young children and their families
- strengthen the coordination among education, health, and social services for these young children and their families
- ensure that state and federal dollars are utilized efficiently

The following are some examples of what has been accomplished:

- Piloting regional services coordinators in the regions of Colby, Garden City, Newton and Hays. These coordinators are to support families in understanding and meeting the needs of their preschool children at risk for or with handicaps. (Funding Sources - Kansas Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities, Title VI-B Discretionary Funds, Local Dollars and Special Education Categorical Reimbursement)
  
- Establishing an Information/Referral Network. This network can assist Kansans in locating services for preschool children with handicapping conditions and their families.  
Funding Sources:
  - Toll Free Number - Kansas Crippled Children's Advisory Commission
  - Computer - Kansas Department of Education
  - Information/Referral Operator -
    - Kansas Department of Health and Environment
    - Kansas Department of Education
    - Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services
    - Kansas Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities
    - Kansas University
  
- Public Awareness Materials - These media materials emphasize that services may be available and that these children and their families can benefit from these services.  
Funding Sources:
  - Kansas Department of Education
  - Kansas Department of Health and Environment
  
- Establishing a Clearinghouse for Training Resources for Personnel Serving the Handicapped  
Funding Sources:
  - Kansas Department of Education
  - Emporia State University
  - Kansas Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities
  - Kansas Association of Rehabilitation Facilities

CONCERNS:

We are convinced that the success of these activities can be attributed to state agencies sharing staff and financial resources. These new and future efforts must not be allowed to cease. Continued committment of the cabinet level state officials needs to be assured if this plan that has been developed is to be implemented.

FISCAL IMPACT:

A staff person to this council and reimbursement for the expenses of the public members would be subject to the availability of federal grant funds to the Kansas Department of Education. The impact would be significant on the quality and availability of services for over 5000 handicapped and nearly 10,000 chronically ill or at risk children who are age five or under.

TESTIMONY ON HB 3000

PRESENTED TO House Education Committee - 2/24/86

I am here today to ask for your support on HB 3000. The establishment of a Cabinet Subcommittee on Early Childhood Developmental Services by Governor Carlin in April of 1984 was a step in the direction of providing services for preschool handicapped population and their families across Kansas.

The Subcommittee is in its' second year of planning, and is composed of the Secretaries of the Department of Health and Environment, Administration, and Social and Rehabilitation Services, the Commissioner of Education and one public member, Joan Armstrong of Wichita. Recently, the chairpersons for the Citizen's Advisory Committee were asked to give input to the Subcommittee as well. As chairperson for the Citizens Advisory Committee, my husband and I attended the Subcommittee on Early Childhood Developmental Services in December, 1985.

The first reason I believe HB 3000 should be passed into law is the Subcommittee has formed a state plan for preschool services for the handicapped population in Kansas. We need to allow the continued commitment of the cabinet level officials to assure the plan will be implemented.

The second reason for my support of HB 3000 is the Governor's Cabinet Subcommittee on Early Childhood Developmental Services provides a very good example of interagency cooperation and what can be accomplished by agencies working together to provide services. The committee proves that interagency agreement can work on a state level. Let's use the model on regional and local levels as well.

The 3rd reason for support of HB 3000 is there would be no fiscal impact other than the commitment of staff time as a federal grant provides funds for staff and operating expenses.

The last and most important reason for support of HB 3000 is to insure that parents of preschool handicapped children in Kansas have a staff of professionals in Topeka working on services for their children. Often, even with benefit of services, it will take parents and families of handicapped children several years to adjust. Parents go from one crisis to the next oblivious of needs outside their immediate families. In the first years, you are not only faced with emotional trauma but with day to day necessities. Taking time off from work to travel for tests and to see specialized physicians is often done on "vacation" time, so that one does not loose income from work.

When my son was preschool age and needed services the most, that was the time in my life when I could give the least support toward developing preschool programs for handicapped children in Kansas.

I ask for your support of HB 3000 to establish the Cabinet Subcommittee on Early Childhood Developmental Services by law.

Thank you.

*Dawn + Don Merriman*

Dawn & Don Merriman  
2515 Rockhurst  
Salina, Kansas 67401  
913-827-7661

House Education Committee  
Rep. Don Crumbaker, Chairman  
Rep. Denise Apt, Vice Chairman

February 24, 1986

Dear Mr. Chairman and committee members,

Thank you for the opportunity to address you in regards to House Bill 3000. Just over one year ago, I was the father of a 1½ year old son, healthy in every way and above normal in terms of development. A tragic, unexplainable accident has left him severely handicapped, both mentally and physically.

Previously I was one of the many people merrily living my life oblivious to the struggles facing many members of society every day. I thought real trouble meant not being able to afford a house, slim prospects for much improvement in salary, and other such financial problems. Now I know better.

Yet in spite of difficulties we now must deal with, I realize that we would be much worse off if we lived in another part of the state. Luckily for us, Salina is among the state's leaders in providing services for the handicapped. But other parts of the state--especially rural areas--have few available services, if any. These are the people for whom the Cabinet Subcommittee on Early Childhood Developmental Services is absolutely vital. The subcommittee has initiated an information/referral network and regional service coordinators to help families in less fortunate areas to find and receive the services that can make such a difference in the lives of their children.

I fully understand the revenue shortage facing state government. The beauty of the Cabinet Subcommittee is that it requires no state money. It will use federal money to help improve the services available to perhaps 15,000 of the least fortunate citizens of our state. Without the subcommittee, coordination of these services will be at the whim of future governors--an uncertain fate, at best.

This bill is far less than I personally believe the state should do for handicapped pre-schoolers, but it's an important step in the right direction. Please give it your support.

Sincerely,

*Mr. & Mrs. Bryan Thompson*

Mr. & Mrs. Bryan Thompson

1611 Osborne

Salina, Ks. 67401



TO REP. DON CRUMBAKER (CHAIRPERSON)  
TO REP. DENISE APT (VICE CHAIRPERSON)

DEAR REP. CRUMBAKER

AS A PARENT OF A HANDICAPPED CHILD AND A TAXPAYER OF THE STATE OF KANSAS, I FEEL IT IS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE THAT HOUSE BILL 3000 (ESTABLISHMENT OF A COORDINATING COUNCIL ON EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES) BE ENACTED INTO LAW. THIS COUNCIL WOULD SERVE THE SAME FUNCTION AS THE PRESENT GOVERNOR'S CABINET SUBCOMMITTEE FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES.

THE CURRENT SUBCOMMITTEE HAS DEVELOPED A PLAN TO MEET THE NEEDS OF PRESCHOOLAGE HANDICAPPED CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES. HOWEVER THIS PLAN HAS NOT YET BEEN ENACTED INTO LAW AND THE FUTURE OF THE PRESENT SUBCOMMITTEE IS UNKNOWN SINCE THIS THE LAST YEAR OF OFFICE FOR OUR PRESENT GOVERNOR. BECAUSE OF THESE FACTS I FEEL IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THIS BILL BE PASSED INTO LAW, TO INSURE THE CONTINUING WORK OF IMPROVING THE NEEDED SERVICES FOR PRESCHOOLAGE HANDICAPPED CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES.

I REALLY SEE NO REASON NOT TO MAKE THIS BILL A LAW SINCE THERE WOULD BE NO FISCAL IMPACT OTHER THAN THE COMMITMENT OF STAFF TIME, BECAUSE A FEDERAL GRANT WOULD PROVIDE FUNDS FOR STAFF AND RELATED EXPENSES.

THESE VERY SPECIAL CHILDREN NEED YOUR SUPPORT AND I FEEL A WAY TO START SHOWING SUPPORT AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE IS TO PASS HOUSE BILL 3000 INTO LAW.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND SUPPORT.

SINCERELY,  
Jerrold L. Head  
JERROLD L. HEAD



occupational center of central kansas, inc.

telephone (913) 827-9383 / 370 schilling road / salina, kansas 67401

accredited by  
*Commission on  
Accreditation of  
Rehabilitation  
Facilities*

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*Salina*

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*Salina*

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*Salina*

Loberta Schwartz  
*Salina*

J. E. Moon  
*Mankato*

Walter Miltner  
*Beloit*

February 21, 1986

The Honorable Don Crumbaker  
State Capitol Building  
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Crumbaker:

We are writing in support of HB 3000 regarding the Coordinating Council on Early Childhood Developmental Services.

We feel that this committee should continue to function in a permanent capacity to identify and coordinate services available to handicapped preschool children in Kansas. The existing committee has accomplished a great deal in the past several months in its community education efforts on behalf of handicapped preschoolers and we support the continuation of this effort.

Sincerely

Gary T. Cook  
Executive Director

GTC:jks

THE ASSOCIATION FOR  
RETARDED CITIZENS OF KANSAS, INC.



*Hope through understanding*

February 21, 1986

1111 W. 59TH TERRACE  
SHAWNEE, KS 66203 • (913) 268-8200

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Executive Director

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Great Bend

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Wichita

BILL WARDS  
Olathe

TO: Rep. Don Crumbaker, Chairman  
Members of the House Education Committee

RE: HB 3000

FROM: Lila Paslay, Chairperson  
Legislative Affairs

The Association for Retarded Citizens of Kansas is asking you to support HB 3000 which, if passed, would establish a state coordinating council on early childhood developmental services.

It is estimated that currently 5300 preschool handicapped children are in need of special services. During 1984-85 school year on 24% of these children received services. One of the difficulties in assessing and providing needed services is that no single agency or department carries the responsibility for providing such services.

A coordinating council could help insure that services are not being duplicated, that current resources are being utilized in the most appropriate way and that gaps in services can be addressed. Even though we will work toward increased funding for preschool handicapped services, the reality may be declining fiscal support. It will become even more imperative that coordination of preschool programs for the handicapped be at the highest level possible.

We appreciate your consideration of HB 3000 and encourage your support of it.

HB3000 Proponent  
Margaret Bonds Wares  
Post Office Box 1016  
Hays, Kansas 67601  
(913) 625-5678

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

The rural handicapped child and his family are particularly isolated. They are isolated from vendors of adaptive products, educational services and specialized medical care. They are isolated from each other. Urban families of handicapped children have an advantage, since population density enables families to reach out to each other, develop relationships and through these relationships to create change. Rural families in the same situation are, many times literally at the mercy of media sources, health care providers, school districts and sometimes less than sympathetic extended families and the community.

The Task Force that was established by Governor Carlin has made significant strides during the last two years toward eliminating many of the problems that rural families of handicapped children face. The problem of isolation was addressed by installing a toll free telephone service whereby a family may find available services for its child in the local area. The Regional Coordinator program has placed professional case managers in the rural areas to facilitate early identification and referral of handicapped infants and pre-schoolers. The Make a Difference Campaign has developed a network of caring individuals, including the families of handicapped children and helping professionals. The Town Meeting effort allowed many interested people to learn exactly what they could do to ensure that the children of disability in their communities had a chance to develop at an optimum rate. The Task Force has identified problems that make barriers to providing appropriate services to little children. Among these is the lack of qualified professional personnel. This problem is being addressed in this bill, since it includes the Regents in the Task Force.

The Task Force has proven its worth. The effort has begun to yield fruit. But any effort of this magnitude and timeliness must have competent professional leadership. Leadership is assured through the continued efforts of the people who work in the departments represented on the Task Force, in addition to their regular duties. Any money spent for this Task Force as it is proposed will be Federal Funds. This may be the only piece of legislation to come up this session to have such a wide impact and no state fiscal note.

It has been said that the value of a society may be judged by the way it deals with its weakest members. It is my opinion that the endurance of a society will be determined by the way that it provides for its children. For it is with our children, both handicapped and able bodied, that the future belongs.

I urge you to support HB 3000.



STATE OF KANSAS

JOHN CARLIN, GOVERNOR

STATE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES

ROBERT C. HARDER, SECRETARY

STATE OFFICE BUILDING  
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612

TO: Honorable Members House Education Committee

FROM: Secretary Robert C. Harder *RCH*  
Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services

SUBJECT: Support for House Bill 3000 - Coordinating Council on  
Early Childhood Developmental Services

DATE: February 24, 1986

The purpose of this memorandum is to outline the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services' support for H.B. 3000 which establishes a Coordinating Council on Early Childhood Developmental Services.

As a member of the Governor's Cabinet Subcommittee on Early Childhood Developmental Services, SRS has been working with the Departments of Education, Health and Environment and Administration toward developing an integrated plan for improving and expanding services for young disabled children and their families. During the last eighteen months, I have seen a concerted effort by these state agencies to better coordinate and target the existing programs serving preschool children as well as jointly applying for funding to expand services to infants and children with handicapping conditions. Examples of the activities of the Cabinet Subcommittee include the following. Through a federal Developmental Disabilities grant and Department of Education funding, the Cabinet Subcommittee is piloting a system of regional service coordination in four regions of the state - Colby, Garden City, Newton and Hays. A public awareness campaign was initiated to inform families of the benefits of early intervention. There are many other examples.

The Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services supports the creation of the Coordinating Council on Early Childhood Developmental Services to ensure that the work of the Cabinet Subcommittee will continue. The needs of preschool children with handicapping conditions and their families are many and varied. Social and Rehabilitation Services, Education, Health and Environment and Administration must continue to plan and provide for those needs in an integrated manner. I ask your support for passage of House Bill 3000.

RCH:ACW:mat

ATTACHMENT 5 February 24, 1986  
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE



# ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF KANSAS

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

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TESTIMONY OF  
MR. KEVIN ELMORE  
CAMPUS DIRECTOR, ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF KANSAS  
KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

ON  
HOUSE BILL 3003  
A BILL TO EXTEND ELIGIBILITY UNDER THE STATE SCHOLARSHIP  
PROGRAM TO FIVE YEARS FOR FIVE-YEAR PROGRAMS

BEFORE THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION  
THE HON. DON CRUMBAKER, CHAIRMAN  
FEBRUARY 24, 1986

ATTACHMENT 6      February 24, 1986  
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

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Representing the Students of:

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

TESTIMONY OF KEVIN ELMORE, A.S.K. CAMPUS DIRECTOR, KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY, BEFORE THE HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE ON HOUSE BILL 3003.

Good afternoon. My name is Kevin Elmore, and I am the Campus Director for the Associated Students of Kansas at Kansas State University. I am also a senior at K-State, and am here this morning to express our student's support for House Bill 3003 on the state scholarship program, which would extend eligibility for the award an additional two semesters (one year) for students enrolled in programs requiring that length of time to complete.

Kansas State University has several undergraduate degree programs that require a fifth year to complete; examples are the programs in interior, landscape and standard architecture. Other examples occur in engineering. I am also aware of the new education curricula at the University of Kansas, our sister school to the east, that requires an additional year to complete. We believe that House Bill 3003 represents a fair and equitable way to address the unique financial aid needs of this new "fifth-year" student population.

The state scholarship was created in 1963 and its maximum was set at \$500; that maximum was increased during the last session to \$1000. At the time of its creation, eligibility for

the state scholarship was set at 8 semesters (4 years). This was not by accident; 4 years was settled upon because it was, at the time, the standard length of time required to complete an undergraduate degree. Eligibility terminated at that point because a diligent student needed no longer to finish his educational program.

Since that time, one trend in undergraduate education has been towards the "five-year" degree. In many instances, new standards for graduation, licensure or certification have forced an additional year to be added to a student's educational program. In the instance of the programs at KSU I alluded to, the fifth year is required by the professional licensing organization as well as the North Central Accrediting Association. The KU education program also stipulates that a student cannot be certified or recommended by the university until they have completed the required fifth year.

The fifth year requirement puts many students in an awkward financial position (see chart attached), since their eligibility for many aid programs is expired. These students are understandably upset, since the decision to take a fifth year came not from them but from the institution. In the case of the state scholarship program, the blow is doubly cruel, since these students are required to carry a minimum grade-point average of 3.3 and meet other standards of academic progress, and yet are denied the scholarship in the fifth year despite having met these requirements.



Additionally, the KU education students have a unique difficulty. Since in many cases they receive their degree in the fourth year, but cannot be certified or recommended until after the fifth, they can no longer receive undergraduate student aid but are equally ineligible for graduate assistance since they are not classified as "graduates." They are instead considered "5-D" by the university, which means that they are neither graduate nor undergraduate. Therefore, they are caught in a sort of "limbo" that denies them any form of student assistance.

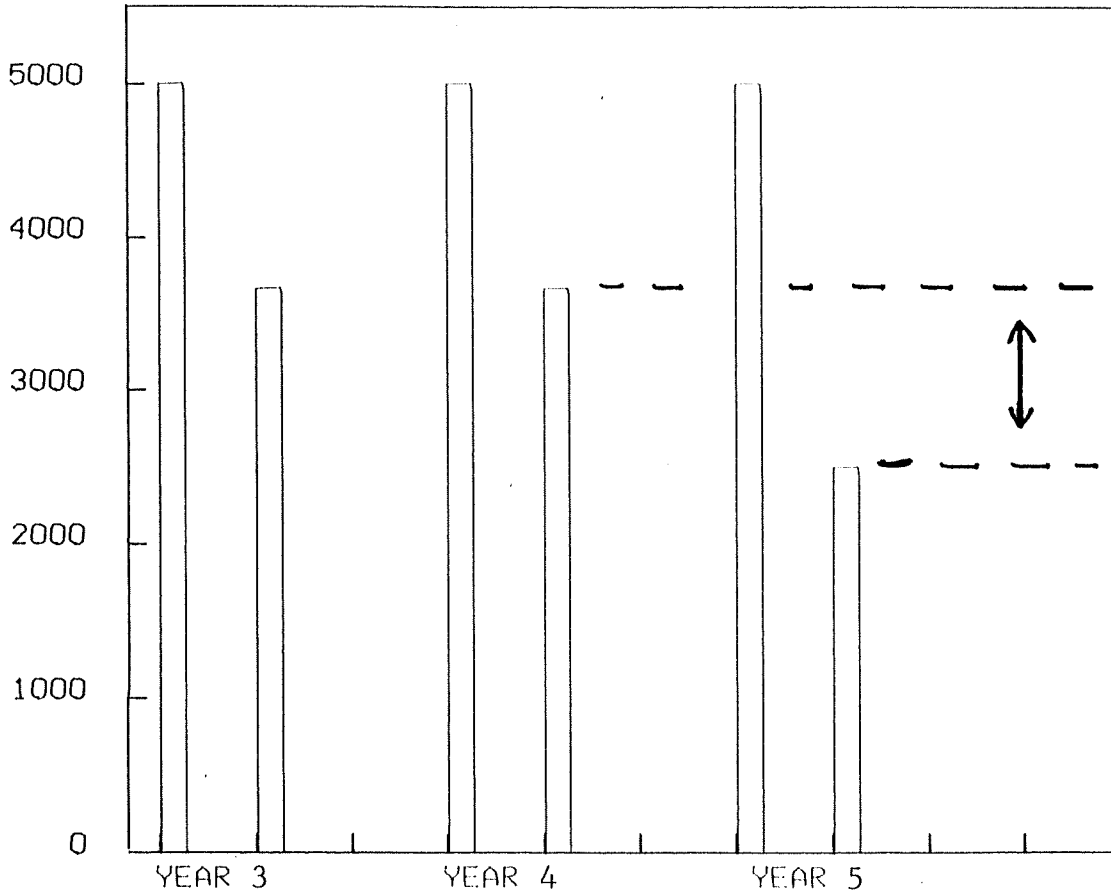
Financial need aside, however, we believe that House Bill 3003 is simple equity. If a student can carry the minimum GPA and other standards of satisfactory academic progress through four years, and if an additional fifth year is required by the university for completion of a program, then eligibility for that student under the state scholarship program should extend through the fifth year. It's simply fair. Indeed, by establishing as the policy of the state that the state scholarship will extend to five years for five-year programs, we may well encourage students in those programs to strive to meet the necessary academic standards, particularly since they know that other forms of aid may well be cut off in that fifth year.

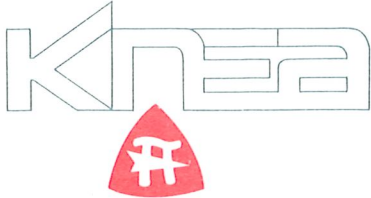
I might anticipate one objection having to do with when the undergraduate degree is awarded during the course of these five-year programs. In certain cases, such as the KU education program, the degree is awarded after the fourth year, and the fifth year is spent student teaching or on an internship of some

sort. The important consideration, however, is not when the degree is awarded, but rather when it is useful; a KU student with an undergraduate degree in education still cannot teach until they are certified or recommended by the university, which cannot happen until after the fifth year. The program, therefore, is five years long.

With that comment, Mr. Chairman, I thank the committee for its patience and will be happy to respond to any questions.

FIGURE 1. A COMPARISON BETWEEN AVAILABLE AID IN THIRD, FOURTH AND FIFTH YEARS OF STUDY. THE FIRST BAR REPRESENTS TOTAL COST; THE SECOND BAR IS A TOTAL OF AVAILABLE GSL, PELL GRANT AND STATE SCHOLARSHIP DOLLARS FOR EACH YEAR.





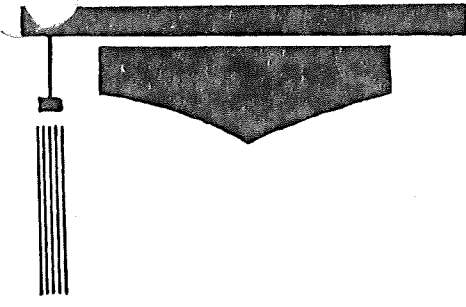
Craig Grant Testimony Before The  
House Education Committee  
February 24, 1986

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Members of the Committee, my name is Craig Grant and I represent Kansas-NEA. I appreciate this chance to speak to you about HB 3003.

Kansas-NEA supports HB 3003 with its provision to extend to a fifth year the eligibility for state scholarships for those whose program would require a five year time to complete. We are especially interested because of the introduction of a five year teacher preparation program at the University of Kansas. Since we are trying to encourage rather than discourage quality students to go in to the education field, this bill might keep some students from choosing other programs which are four year rather than five year programs.

Kansas-NEA hopes that the House Education Committee will report HB 3003 favorably for passage. Thank you for listening to our concerns.

ATTACHMENT 7      February 24, 1986  
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE



# KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS

Suite 609      Capitol Tower      400 S.W. Eighth  
Topeka, Kansas 66603      Telephone (913) 296-3421

February 24, 1986

## TESTIMONIAL SUMMARY

House Bill 3003 - State Scholarship Program  
Clantha McCurdy, Associate Director  
Student Financial Aid

House Bill 3003 is before you for consideration of extending the eight semester eligibility of State Scholarship funds to ten semesters for students enrolled in five year degree programs. In the best interest of the State Scholarship Program, it is the position of the Board of Regents office not to support this recommendation for the following reasons:

- (1) fifth year programs, limited in the Regents institutions and the state, have been in existence since the beginning of the State Scholarship Program in 1963. It has been the purpose of the program to provide a maximum of eight semesters of assistance to as many bright students as possible. Thus, it appears that the issue here is whether to provide scholarships for the completion of programs or provide eight semesters of assistance to as many high ability students as possible. The eight semester statement has been written in statute and operational since the beginning of the program. It therefore appears that the state tends to support as many students as possible for a maximum of eight semesters.
- (2) To support some students for ten semesters means that others will not be supported for eight semesters. Each year more students apply for State Scholarships than there are funds available. This is especially important when federal support from the State Student Incentive (SSIG) program is expected to decrease.
- (3) Many students take four and one half to five years to complete a degree program. For

ATTACHMENT 8      February 24, 1986  
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

many, a significant, yet valid reason can be presented for this extra enrollment period. However, to reward only those enrolled in a five year program and ignore the other valid reasons for five years does not seem fair or reasonable.

- (4) The ten semester plan would, in most cases, automatically exclude community college students. The Board of Regents office does not wish to be in the position of recommending a program or action that would hinder the articulation of programs for students between the two levels of education.

In closing, may I add that the State Scholarship Program was not designed to be everything to everybody. It seems unreasonable to grant eligibility for two more semesters to certain people when there is not enough money to support the current pool of eligible applicants.