

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

Date

2/19/86

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS

The meeting was called to order by Senator Edward F. Reilly, Jr. at \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson

11:00 a.m. ~~xxx~~ on February 13, 1986 in room 254-E of the Capitol.

All members were present ~~except~~

Committee staff present:

Mary Torrence, Assistant Revisor of Statutes  
June Windscheffel, Secretary to the Committee

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Sgt. Kenneth Gorman, National Trustee for the State of Kansas,  
Fraternal Order of Police  
Richard Mills, Secretary, Department of Corrections  
Lt. W. A. Jacobs, Kansas Highway Patrol

SB562 - concerning educational benefits for certain dependents of  
deceased or disabled law enforcement officers.

Sgt. Ken Gorman, Fraternal Order of Police, National Trustee for the State of Kansas, was the first conferee. He said he hoped to be of some help today in support of this bill by giving the Committee a history of the bill request. (Attachment 1)

In addition to the history, Sgt. Gorman said they would ask the Committee to consider two possible amendments: add wording to include "surviving spouse" in the benefits, and to make the bill retroactive to all families of officers who have been killed in the line of duty.

The next conferee was Secretary Richard Mills, Department of Corrections. Secretary Mills said that he supports SB562, and would like to include correctional officers and parole officers in the bill. (Attachment 2)

There was discussion by Committee and conferees as to what Social Security benefits would be available to survivors. Staff will research the Social Security benefits and report back to the Committee.

Lt. W. A. Jacobs, of the Kansas Highway Patrol, was the next speaker. He said they would support this bill. He said they have had two officers killed in the line of duty who have left families behind. Lt. Jacobs said they do not have Social Security but pay into the Kansas Police and Firemen's Fund.

A Committee Member said that the firefighters would also like to be included. The Chairman said that a fiscal note on this has been requested from the Budget Division, and that information will be available for the Committee to study.

Copies of the Bingo Tax Law and Regulations from the Kansas Department of Revenue, Division of Taxation, Sales and Excise Tax Bureau, Bingo Enforcement Unit, were distributed to the Committee by Mr. Phil Wilkes. A Member had requested this information.

The Chairman announced that the next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, February 19, concerning SB538, real estate recovery revolving fund; and SB539, real estate brokers' and salespersons' license act. In the meantime the Chairman is to receive a balloon version of this legislation, and it will be distributed to the Committee to review prior to the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.

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.

2/13/86  
Attachment #1

## BRIEF HISTORY OF BILL REQUEST

In the early 1960's, during the Kennedy administration, congress adopted legislation creating a National Police Officer Memorial Day to honor police officers slain in the line of duty. The law was passed in 1964 and designated May 15th of each year as National Police Officer Memorial Day.

From 1964 until 1981 individual law enforcement agencies observed this day recognizing officers killed in the line of duty. In 1981 the National Fraternal Order of Police organized and sponsored the first national observance for these dedicated officers.

In conjunction with the observance, the National F.O.P. also recognized the need to help the survivors of these officers cope with the traumatic experience they had encountered. Seminars were scheduled on various topics which dealt with concerns faced by survivors in everyday life.

This program became an overnight success and the survivors expressed a need to form their own support group to not only deal with their own personal loss but to assist each other and future survivors in dealing with their feelings.

In 1983 these survivors formed this independent group and they called themselves "Concerns of Police Survivors" or C.O.P.S. for short. This group of C.O.P.S. received assistance from the U.S. Department of Justice in the form of a grant which enabled them to conduct sessions on their own, independent of the F.O.P. and address specific concerns relative to all survivors.

The first and foremost problem facing the survivors was determined to be in the areas of financial need. When the police officer was killed, the primary source of income was eliminated. Although many received death benefits, it was found that these could not adequately sustain the family for any length of time.

In order to compensate for this loss of primary income, the survivors recognized their need to gain additional educational benefits in order to be competitive in today's job market. Along with the loss of income came the inability to finance the cost of education therefore the members of C.O.P.S. have requested the assistance of State Chapters of the Fraternal Order of Police in sponsoring legislation designed to assist both surviving spouses and the children in attaining their educational goals.

On behalf of all the future survivors of slain police officers we would request that this committee pass this bill out with favorable recommendations.

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY  
IN KANSAS

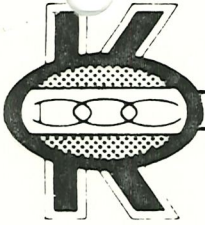
1978	1
1979	2
1980	1
1981	1
1982	3
1983	0
1984	1
1985	1
1986	1 (to date)

**EDUCATION COSTS  
(PER PUPIL COST)**

<u>UNIVERSITY</u>	<u>PER YEAR</u>	<u>PER SEMESTER</u>
KANSAS UNIVERSITY	\$1,230.00	\$615.00
KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY	1,251.00	625.50
WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY	1,283.50	641.75
EMPORIA STATE UNIVERSITY	1,083.00	541.50
PITTSBURG STATE UNIVERSITY	1,048.00	524.00
FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY	1,152.50	576.25
KANSAS TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	687.00	343.50

Average yearly cost for tuition only in State operated Colleges and Universities is **\$1,105.00**. The semester average cost was **\$552.50**.

The above cost figures are current and were obtained from the office of the Kansas Board of Regents.



# KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

JOHN CARLIN — GOVERNOR

RICHARD A. MILLS — SECRETARY

JAYHAWK TOWERS • 700 JACKSON • TOPEKA, KANSAS • 66603-3798  
913-296-3317

TO: FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
FROM: RICHARD A. MILLS, SECRETARY OF CORRECTIONS  
RE: SENATE BILL NO. 562  
DATE: FEBRUARY 13, 1986

This bill provides a waiver of tuition for dependents of a law enforcement officer who is killed or disabled while performing those duties. I support this bill to the extent that it goes.

However, I believe the bill is too limited in its coverage and therefore urge that it be expanded. Specifically, the bill defines "law enforcement officer" according to K.S.A. 74-5602. That definition does not include corrections officers or parole officers.

Corrections officers and parole officers are defined as law enforcement officers by K.S.A. 75-5247a and K.S.A. 22-2202(13). They perform duties essential to the public safety and are daily exposed to the risks of injury or death. I have provided a list of correctional employees who have lost their lives in the line of duty in recent years. Federal law, which provides for a \$50,000 death benefit to the families of slain public safety officers, defines "law enforcement officer" as

"a person involved in crime and juvenile delinquency control or reduction, or enforcement of the criminal laws. This includes, but is not limited to, police, corrections, probation, parole, and judicial officers."

I believe the arguments in favor of extending the benefits proposed by this bill to the dependents of other law enforcement officers have equal application for corrections officers and parole officers. Therefore, I urge the passage of this bill with the definition of "law enforcement officer" expanded to include corrections officers and parole officers.

RAM:CES/pa

Sen. Fed. & State Affairs  
2/13/86 Attachment 2

KDOC EMPLOYEES SLAIN IN THE LINE OF DUTY IN RECENT YEARS

1954 - KSP

Correctional officer shot to death by inmates in escape attempt.

10-19-76

Parole Officer Paul Weber - stabbed to death by parolee.

8-14-78 - KSP

Correctional Officer Ray Martin beaten at Infirmary. Officer Martin died at K.U. Medical Center on 8-19-78.

7-6-80 - KSP

Food Supervisor Burch D. Slote - stabbed to death in kitchen.

10-11-81

Correctional Officer Robert D. Hurd - stabbed to death in "B" cellhouse.