

Approved March 2, 1987
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Denise Apt at
Chairperson

3:30 a.m./p.m. on February 16, 1987 in room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative JoAnn Pottorff

Committee staff present:

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

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Kay Coles, Kansas National Education Association
John Koepkes, Kansas Association of School Boards
Gerald Henderson, United School Administrators
Jim Yonally, Shawnee Mission Schools, USD #512

Chairman Apt called the meeting to order and opened hearings on HB 2298, which would allow school districts to have authorization to raise their budget limitation 1 percent, subject to protest petition/election provision.

Kay Coles, K-NEA, spoke in support of HB 2289 saying it would allow school boards to have maximum flexibility in their budgeting. (Attachment I)

John Koepke, KASB, spoke in favor of HB 2289 and urged favorable action from the committee.

Gerald Henderson, USA, added his support of HB 2289.

Hearings on HB 2289 were declared closed by the chairman.

Hearings were opened on HB 2381 by Representative Kerry Patrick's explanation of the bill that would allow districts that receive no general state aid to continue to levy a property tax equal to the levy the district had in 1985-86, and spend the amount so raised above the state prescribed budget limits.

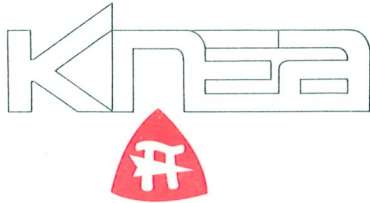
Jim Yonally, on behalf of Shawnee Mission Schools, USD #512, appeared in support of HB 2381 and gave statistics showing why his school district is interested in the provisions of this bill. (Attachment II)

Kay Coles, K-NEA, spoke in support of HB 2381 saying it would provide flexibility for those school districts that have been hard hit by low budget financing.

The chairman declared the hearings on HB 2381 closed.

The minutes for February 9, February 11, and February 12 were approved as written.

Chairman Apt adjourned the meeting at 3:53 p.m. The next meeting will be February 17, 1987 at 3:30 in Room 519-S.



Kay Coles Testimony before the House Education Committee

February 16, 1987

Thank you Madame Chairman. Members of the committee, my name is Kay Coles and I am here today representing the 20,000 members of Kansas-NEA. I appreciate this opportunity to speak with you in support of HB 2289.

HB 2289, would allow school boards to add an additional 1% to their budget authority if they determine a need exists. Kansas-NEA strongly supports this concept, as well as several others that would allow school boards to have maximum flexibility in their budgeting.

We would ask you today to give careful consideration to raising the 1% cap contained in HB 2289 to 2%, thus giving school boards an even greater option in a year of tight fiscal situations.

Kansas-NEA encourages you to recommend HB 2289 favorably for passage.

Thank you.

Attachment I
House Education 2/16/87

Testimony Before the House Education Committee on HB 2381
February 16, 1987

Madame Chairman and members of the House Education Committee, I am Jim Yonally, representing the Shawnee Mission Board of Education, and we are pleased to appear in support of HB 2381.

As a practical matter, Shawnee Mission may be the only school district with a real interest in the provisions of this bill. Therefore, let me share some statistics with you that cause us to seek passage of this bill.

1. From 1970 until 1985, we experienced a substantial decline in enrollment. During that time we were able to reduce staff through attrition, but, conversely, employed very few "new" teachers. This leaves us in the enviable position (from an educational standpoint) of having a staff with a number of years of experience and a high level of training. However, since 1985 our enrollment has leveled off and shows some signs of increasing in the foreseeable future. This means we must have a salary schedule that would be competitive for attracting beginning teachers. Not only will we need to be competitive because of an increasing enrollment, but we will soon face the necessity of replacing large numbers of retiring teachers.

2. Based on salary data compiled by the Kansas NEA, for the 1985-86 school year, I submit the following:

A. Our beginning salary for a Bachelor degree teacher with no experience was \$16,165, which gave us a ranking of 110th in the state. Districts around us who are our primary competition had beginning salaries as follows: Southeast Johnson Co. (Blue Valley) - \$17,300; Olathe - \$17,100; DeSoto - \$17,411. It is true that we also must compete with other large urban districts, and their beginning salaries were as follows: Wichita - \$16,500; Kansas City - \$17,100; and Topeka - \$17,425.

B. Maximum salaries for a Bachelor degree teacher - Shawnee Mission - \$19,165; Blue Valley - \$22,490; Olathe - \$25,650; DeSoto - \$19,911; Wichita - \$19,608; Kansas City - \$23,470; Topeka - NA.

Salary schedules, as you know, are a subject of negotiation between the school board and their employee representatives, so I cannot tell you what the Shawnee Mission board would do with the additional budget authority that would be granted by passage of this bill. The above information is only intended to indicate a part of the problem we face.

We do urge the committee to give favorable consideration to the passage of HB 2381. I would be happy to try to answer any questions the committee might have.