

Approved March 16, 1987
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

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

3:30 ~~xxx~~ p.m. on March 3, 1987 in room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative JoAnn Pottorff, excused.

Committee staff present:

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

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Barbara Allen, Attorney General Office
Jim Yonally, Shawnee Mission USD #512
Dr. Merle Hill, Kansas Association of Community Colleges
Vicky Thomas, University of Kansas
Richard Funk, Kansas Association of School Boards
Onan Burnett, USD #501
Connie Hubbell, State Board of Education
Sharon Weiss, Kansas Council on Bilingual Education
Mark Marcano
Kay Coles, Kansas National Education Association
John Koepke, Kansas Association of School Boards
Mark Tallman, Associated Students of Kansas
John Toland, Parent
Jim Copple, Wichita Federation of Teachers
Kathryn Dysart, Wichita USD #259
Kenneth Rogg, Schools for Quality Education

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Apt and hearings on HB 2426 concerning designation and training of school law enforcement officers were opened.

Barbara Allen spoke in support of HB 2426. (Attachment I)

Jim Yonally favored HB 2426 saying it gave the option to school boards who wished to provide training for their security guards to be able to use the facilities at the Law Enforcement Training Academy. (Attachment II)

Dr. Merle Hill testified in favor of HB 2426.

Vicky Thomas spoke in favor of HB 2426 saying with the information available it appears the fiscal impact of the bill would be slight. (Attachment III)

Richard Funk spoke in support of HB 2426.

Onan Burnett said his district wholeheartedly supports the concept in HB 2426.

Hearings were declared closed on HB 2426.

The chair directed attention to HB 2427 concerning bilingual education.

Connie Hubbell recommended passage of HB 2427 as it would authorize the State Board of Education to determine the qualifications of paraprofessionals involved in the instruction of limited English proficient pupils. (Attachment IV)

Sharon Weiss spoke in favor of HB 2427 saying qualified teachers who have been trained in second language teaching must be provided for non-English speaking and/or limited English proficient students to insure they have equal and quality programs to which they're entitled. (Attachment V)

Mark Marcano added his support to the statements given in Sharon Weiss' testimony for HB 2427.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION,
room 519-S, Statehouse, at 3:30 ~~xxx~~ a.m./p.m. on March 3, 1987.

Kay Coles testified in support of HB 2427 saying a clear definition of "qualified teacher" for bilingual programs in our school districts should add to the quality of these programs. (Attachment VI)

John Koepke added his support to passage of HB 2427.

Hearings on HB 2427 were declared closed.

The chair opened hearings on HB 2481 concerning postsecondary education information program for Kansas schools.

Mark Tallman spoke in support of HB 2481 saying it would provide students and prospective students of institutions of postsecondary education with information necessary for such students to make educational and career choices most suited to their individual needs and desires. (Attachment VII)

Chairman Apt noted a letter she had received from Dr. Stan Koplik, Executive Director of the Kansas Board of Regents, which stated the concept embodied in HB 2481 is sound as it relates to making information available to students but he believes it can be accomplished through existing means. (Attachment VIII)

Hearings on HB 2481 were declared closed.

Chairman Apt opened hearings on HB 2214.

John Toland spoke in favor of HB 2214 saying since the discretion of early promotion is allowed in the more advanced grades it should also be allowed at the kindergarten level.

Jim Copple testified in support of HB 2214 stating no child, who is determined to be emotionally, physically and intellectually ready for school should be denied the right to school services. (Attachment IX)

John Koepke spoke in opposition to HB 2214 stating the belief that an age needs to be established to deal with the entrance to kindergarten or first grade.

Kay Coles opposes HB 2214 saying it does not clarify how the determination will be made of advancing a child to a higher level and she also pointed out the lack of proper tests to be used in making these determinations.

Kathryn Dysart objected to HB 2214 in that no time specification is made and no screening procedure provided for in determining eligibility to enter first grade.

Onan Burnett strongly opposed HB 2214 for the reasons already expressed.

Kenneth Rogg spoke against HB 2214 saying that rather than accelerating the rate at which children move through the grades there should be a broadening of interest and instruction at each grade level to provide for enrichment.

Jim Yonally, speaking as a private citizen, opposed HB 2214 saying there would be problems, one of which is cost. Also children mature at different rates and have spurts of growth and then might level off after they had been advanced from kindergarten to first grade.

Hearings on HB 2214 were declared closed by the chairman.

A question and answer period followed the hearings.

Chairman Apt gave opportunity for action to be taken on bills previously heard.

Representative Don Crumbaker moved HB 2443 and HB 2482 be passed out favorably. Seconded by Representative Cindy Empson.

Representative Kerry Patrick moved to amend HB 2443 by striking all the language after "contrary" on line 88 through line 89. Seconded by Representative Smith. Motion carried.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

room 519-S, Statehouse, at 3:30 ~~a.m.~~/p.m. on March 3, 1987

Avis Swartzman pointed out a technicality in Line 36 of HB 2443 and Representative David Miller moved to amend by inserting the words "the agreement" following the word "but" in Line 36. Seconded by Representative Blumenthal. Motion carried.

Representative Crumbaker renewed his motion that HB 2443 be passed as amended. Seconded by Representative Empson. Motion carried.

A motion by Representative Patrick to amend HB 2482 by striking all the language following the word "contrary" on line 65. Seconded by Representative R. D. Miller. Motion carried.

Representative Gary Blumenthal moved to amend HB 2482 in Line 57 by inserting the words "the agreement is" following the word "unless". Seconded by Representative Gene Amos. Motion carried.

Representative Don Crumbaker moved HB 2482 be passed as amended. Representative Cindy Empson seconded. Motion carried.

Representative Crumbaker made a motion that HB 2074 which defines state aid for community college vocational education programs be passed favorably. Seconded by Representative Harder. Motion carried.

Representative R. D. Miller moved that HB 2139 regarding notification dates for discontinuation be favorably passed. Seconded by Representative Empson.

Representative Laird moved to amend HB 2139 by changing the date in line 53 from May to May 15. Seconded by Representative Hensley. Motion was defeated.

After further discussion Representative Gary Blumenthal moved to table HB 2139. Seconded by Representative Harder. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

The next meeting will be March 4, 1987 at 3:30 in Room 519-S.

DATE March 3, 1987

GUEST REGISTER

HOUSE

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

NAME	ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS
JOHN P. WOLF	UNIV. OF KANSAS	LAWRENCE KS
Vickie THOMAS	L L	L L
Marion C. Gallo	ASK	Topeka
Marti Aaron	Univ of K, S	Lawrence
Bella Scott	USA	Topeka
Gerald Muder	USA	Topeka
Ken Roop	SOE	Paola
Beta Wilbur	S.S.	Topeka
May Ellen Amos	Lg. of Women Voters	Topeka
Connie Havelock	SA Bd of Ed	Topeka
Kathryn Dypert	USD 259	Wichita
Richard Funk	KASB	Topeka
John R. Tard	Individually	Topeka
Karen A. Tard	Individually	Topeka
Jenny Tavares Barthow	Advisory Comm. on Hispanic Affairs	Topeka
Sharon Weiss	Ks. Council on Bilingual Ed	Overland Park
John W. Koepke	KASB	Topeka
Jacqueline Baker	KC K Schools	Topeka
Belen Stephens	KCK #300	Topeka
Jin Yenally	USD # 512	Overland Park
Jim Collins	K-NEA	Topeka
Chris Burnett	USA 501#	Topeka
Jan Curren	WFT	Wichita
Jean Sagan	Bd. of Regents	Top

In October of 1986, the Attorney General issued Opinion No. 86-139, which addressed the extent of and limitations upon the authority of a school security officer. In that opinion, we noted that neither K.S.A. 72-8222, the statute specifying the powers possessed by school security officers, nor K.S.A. 74-5602(e), the statute defining "law enforcement officer" or "police officer" for the purpose of describing those persons who are eligible for attendance at the Law Enforcement Training Academy (K.S.A. 74-5605), defined "law enforcement officer" to include community college security officers. Therefore, since school security officers employed under K.S.A. 72-8222 were not "law enforcement officers," we concluded that they were not eligible for attendance at the Law Enforcement Training Academy.

Proposed House Bill No. 2426 amends K.S.A. 72-8222 and K.S.A. 74-5602(e) to allow school security officers to become eligible to attend the Law Enforcement Training Academy. K.S.A. 72-8222, if amended, would allow the board of education of any school district or the board of trustees of any community college to designate any one or more of its school security officers as a "school law enforcement officer." K.S.A. 74-5602(e), if amended, would include said designees within the definition of "police officer" or "law enforcement officer." Therefore, school security officers who have been designated as "school law enforcement officers" would be

eligible for attendance at the Law Enforcement Training Academy.

Attorney General Stephan is of the opinion that a school security officer should have the option of becoming eligible to attend the Law Enforcement Training Academy, if the school district or the community college employing the officer so desires. Accordingly, the Attorney General strongly supports passage of House Bill No. 2426.

November 18, 1986
State Representative Amos
Page 2

I am requesting that you consider sponsoring a bill that would alter existing statutes, or create additional statutes requiring all school security officers to be uniformed and to meet the basic law enforcement training standards, by being allowed to attend state certified training schools.

Gene, as a former member of the school board, you can readily recognize the problems that would exist if school security officers were no longer trained in the area of law enforcement. In addition to creating problems for the police, it would cause undue problems for the school district, and could make the school district liable for security officers acting in total ignorance.

I think there is some urgency to my request in order that I can be assured, and my colleagues in other law enforcement areas can be assured, that the school security officers on duty are properly trained, properly educated, and properly uniformed, and are also capable and aware of their lawful responsibility to the community.

Sincerely,

SHAWNEE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Charles J. Stump
Chief

CJS/rmj

Enc.

SHAWNEE POLICE DEPARTMENT

6535 OJIVIRA ROAD
SHAWNEE, KANSAS 66216
631-2155



#HB
2426

November 19, 1986

State Representative Eugene Amos
% Amos Family Funeral Home
10901 Johnson Drive
Shawnee, KS 66203

Dear Representative Amos:

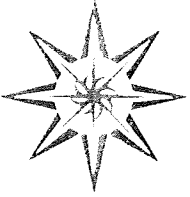
I am enclosing a copy of the Attorney General's opinion which directly affects the position of school security in our community. As a police administrator charged with the responsibilities of maintaining general compliance to all laws, it is impossible, because of manpower demands, to assign officers to school campuses on a full-time or part-time basis. The school district must maintain its own security force.

When the school district inaugurated campus police, "school security", it was with a great deal of relief that I welcomed their presence in the law enforcement community, and aided them whenever possible through established communications. I have always had confidence in their ability to properly fulfill their duties, based on the fact that they have been properly trained and have, from time to time, received additional training within the confines of the Shawnee Police Department.

The Attorney General's opinion basically prevents the training of school security officers and state maintained or certified training facilities. I feel this would create problems as untrained security officers could be detrimental to the proper performance of their duty.

In order to be functional, school security officers must be in distinctive uniform and must be armed. I, as a police administrator, would be totally reluctant to tolerate the presence of untrained, or nonuniformed and unarmed school security officers on the campuses of schools within my jurisdiction.

Attachment II
House Education 3/3/87



THE CITY OF PRAIRIE VILLAGE *Star of Kansas*

December 6, 1987

The Honorable Eugene P. Amos
5925 Bluejacket
Shawnee, Kansas 66203

Subject: Attorney General Opinion No. 86-139

Dear Mr. Amos:

At the December 10, 1986 meeting of the Johnson County Chiefs Association, a resolution was passed directing the president of the association to write a letter for distribution to legislatures and others involved in the relationship of the school security officers and local law enforcement departments. Chief Stump of Shawnee advised that he had discussed the matter with you and suggested that I direct the information to your attention.

For some years the Shawnee Mission 512 School District has employed full-time school security officers under the control of a central school security office. These officers are on duty at each of the five high schools each day that school is in session. In addition, most special events have school security officers on duty for crowd control.

Each of the local police departments have developed agreements of understanding between school security and the police department on the duties that the security officers are to perform as an extension of the police department. Because of the selection process and completion of the Kansas Law Enforcement Academy with state certification for those officers employed by 512 Security, many normal police functions on school property are provided by the security officers. It is our position that this has been a great benefit to both the schools and local governments.

Our main concern is the fact that Opinion 86-139 includes the language that school security officers employed under K.S.A. 72-822 are not "law enforcement officers, and thus not eligible for attendance at the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Academy".

The legal opinion clearly states the reason for this position. However, we believe that in order for the security officers to provide the "limited" law enforcement powers on school property, it should only follow that a training requirement is equally important to that of police officer. Security

(Continued)

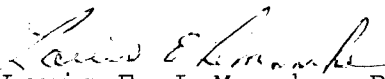
officers in our area provide traffic direction, make arrests, conduct investigations, prepare offense reports, etc., on school property and therefore need the same level of training as any police officer.

I am sure that there are many schools or school districts throughout the state that do not have full school security officers or programs. Since the authority of deciding on such a program and the duties they are to perform rests solely upon the governing body of the school district, they may elect to have no program, have only watchmen, or have officers who actually perform police duties. In the latter case, they should also have the means to obtain the necessary training to assist them with their duties and provide protection from civil suits directed at "failure to train". We take the position that there is no conflict.

On behalf of the Johnson County Chiefs Association we request your assistance in this matter. The opinion is based on the fact that it was not the intent of the legislature to confer police officer status on school security officers, and therefore they cannot attend the state training academy.

We would request consideration to amend this statute to allow those school security officers, after meeting all entrance requirements of the academy, to attend and be certified to perform all law enforcement duties upon school property.

Very truly yours,


Louis E. LeManske, President
Johnson County Police Chiefs Association
7700 Mission Road
Prairie Village, Kansas 66208

LEL:mgl

cc: Maynard L. Brazeal, Director
Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center

Richard Kistner, President
Kansas Police Chiefs Association

Enclosure: Attorney General Opinion No. 86-139



STATE OF KANSAS

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

2ND FLOOR, KANSAS JUDICIAL CENTER, TOPEKA 66612

ROBERT T. STEPHAN
ATTORNEY GENERAL

October 3, 1986

MAIN PHONE (913) 296-2215
CONSUMER PROTECTION 296-3751

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION NO. 86- 139

Ward E. Loyd
103 W. Chestnut Street
Garden City, Kansas 67846-5404

Re: Schools -- Organization, Powers and Finances of
Boards of Education -- School Security Officers

Synopsis: K.S.A. 72-8222 allows the board of trustees of any community junior college to employ school security officers "to aid and supplement law enforcement agencies" The statute also provides that each school security officer so employed, while engaged in a protective function, "shall possess and exercise all general law enforcement powers and privileges" School security officers employed under K.S.A. 72-8222 are not "law enforcement officers," and are thus not eligible for attendance at the Law Enforcement Training Academy. Rather, school security officers possess and may exercise law enforcement powers only while engaged in their protective function, as defined by both K.S.A. 72-8222 and school authorities. Further, the jurisdiction in which school security officers are authorized to exercise their "general law enforcement powers and privileges" is determined by specific limitations imposed by K.S.A. 72-8222, as well as any guidelines set forth by school authorities which fall within the aforementioned statutory jurisdictional limitations. Cited herein: K.S.A. 72-8222; 74-5602(e); 74-5605, as amended by L. 1986, ch. 301, §1.

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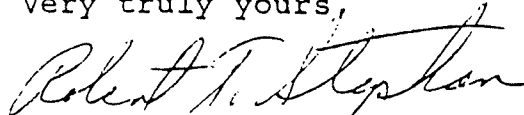
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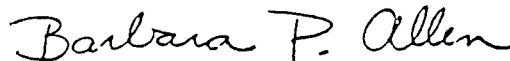
Finally, you inquire as to the limits on the authority of campus security officers in light of traditionally acknowledged police powers. After reviewing our answers to the previous two questions, we feel your third question has been adequately addressed in previous portions of this opinion. In general terms, limitations on the authority of security personnel will be determined by the scope of their law enforcement authority, and the jurisdiction within which they may exercise the scope of their authority.

In summary, K.S.A. 72-8222 allows the board of trustees of any community junior college to employ school security officers "to aid and supplement law enforcement agencies" The statute also provides that each school security officer so employed, while engaged in a protective function, "shall possess and exercise all general law enforcement powers and privileges" School security officers employed under K.S.A. 72-8222 are not "law enforcement officers," and are thus not eligible for attendance at the Law Enforcement Training Academy. Rather, school security officers possess and may exercise law enforcement powers only while engaged in their protective function, as defined by both K.S.A. 72-8222 and school authorities. Further, the jurisdiction in which school security officers are authorized to exercise their "general law enforcement powers and privileges" is determined by specific limitations imposed by K.S.A. 72-8222, as well as any guidelines set forth by school authorities which fall within the aforementioned statutory jurisdictional limitations.

Very truly yours,



ROBERT T. STEPHAN
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF KANSAS



Barbara P. Allen
Assistant Attorney General

RTS:JLM:BPA:crw

Testimony Before the House Committee on Education
on House Bill 2426

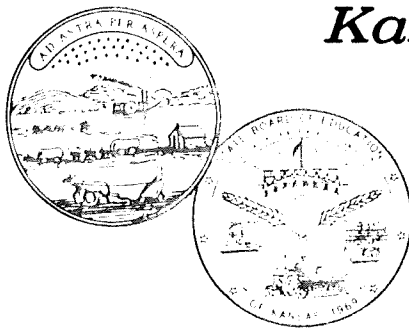
March 3, 1987

Ann Victoria thomas
General Counsel
University of Kansas

House Bill 2426 would expand the pool of law enforcement officers in Kansas by permitting the board of education of a school district or the board of trustees of a community college to designate one or more of its school security officers as "school law enforcement officers." Individuals so designated would be subject to the provisions of the law enforcement training act (K.S.A. 74-5602 et seq.) and would be required to complete the 320-hour basic training requirement and the 40-hour annual requirement if they are employed more than 1,000 hours per year.

We have not been able to determine how many individuals would be covered by this amendment. We do know that not all school districts have security officers. For that reason, we cannot entirely assess the fiscal impact of the bill on the Law Enforcement Training Center which is operated by the University of Kansas. We believe, based on the information available, that the fiscal impact of the bill would be slight and that we would not be required to add any personnel to the staff of the Training Center. Section 5 of the bill would permit the charging of tuition consistent with the expense of training these individuals and the Training Center would thereby recover the costs associated with their training.

Some slight changes would have to be made to accommodate this category of officer in the central registry database maintained by the Training Center. The costs associated with these changes are estimated to be \$1,500. It would be necessary, should this bill be passed in its present form, to have the expenditure limit for the Training Center increased by this amount. We believe that the law enforcement training fund, as presently constituted, would provide sufficient income to accommodate such an increase in the expenditure limit.



Kansas State Board of Education

Kansas State Education Building

120 East 10th Street Topeka, Kansas 66612-1103

Mildred McMillon
District 1

Connie Hubbell
District 4

Bill Musick
District 6

Evelyn Whitcomb
District 8

Kathleen White
District 2

Sheila Frahm
District 5

Richard M. Robl
District 7

Robert J. Clemons
District 9

Paul D. Adams
District 3

March 3, 1987

Marion (Mick) Stevens
District 10

TO: House Education Committee
FROM: State Board of Education
SUBJECT: 1987 House Bill 2427

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

House Bill 2427 authorizes the State Board of Education to determine the qualifications of paraprofessionals involved in the instruction of limited English proficient pupils. In addition, the language has been changed to read in a more positive manner.

The recommendations in House Bill 2427 are a result of a task force study from school district officials directly involved in the program.

The State Board of Education recommends that you report House Bill 2427 favorably for passage.

Attachment IV
House Education 3/3/87

HOUSE BILL NO. 2427

Non-English speaking (NES) and/or limited English proficient (LEP) students require sequentially planned language programs. The goal of these language programs is to aid the students become proficient in English as quickly as possible.

Initially the students need to be tested with an appropriate battery that can help clarify strengths and weaknesses in the four areas including listening, speaking, reading and writing .

Based on the results of the test battery, a program of "informed instruction" is established.

A qualified teacher who has been trained in second language learning and acquisition needs to be involved whether in a direct model (one where s/he does the testing her/himself) or an indirect model (one where s/he trains and consults with certificated personnel and paraprofessionals).

The indirect model is suggested in recognition of the potential difficulties school districts-especially in remote areas- can experience when trying to provide a qualified teacher. Several districts can co-op their efforts. Combined training and inservices can be provided.

All certified teachers can add, subtract, multiply and divide yet they are not qualified to be math instructors. Teachers are not qualified to teach non-English speaking and limited English proficient students as a result of their ability to speak the English language. The State Board of Education has issued specific regulations for certification in Bilingual/multicultural education (91-1-85) and English-as-a-second language (91-1-92).

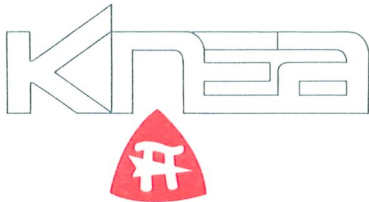
For NES and LEP students to receive the equal and quality programs to which they're entitled, qualified teachers who have been trained in second language teaching must be provided. School districts need to provide at minimum one qualified teacher (indirect or direct model) who is responsible for programming and monitoring the progress of each student.

It is not acceptable nor equitable assigning a non-Bilingual or non-English-as-a-second-language teacher the responsibility for programming these students.

Section 1 (f) (2) House Bill No. 2427 which states a qualified teacher could be a paraprofessional qualified to assist certificated teachers in the instruction of limited English proficient pupils denies this student population an equal opportunity for a quality educational program.

"Certificated teacher" needs to be changed to "qualified teacher."

Sharon Weiss
Shawnee Mission USD#512 (913-432-2611)
English As A Second Language Resource / Teacher
Kansas Council on Bilingual Education/Co-Chairperson (913-492-5751)



Kay Coles testimony before the
House Education Committee
March 3, 1987

Thank you Madame Chairman. Members of the Committee, my name is Kay Coles and I am here today representing Kansas-NEA. I appreciate the opportunity to speak with you about HB 2427.

Kansas-NEA rises in support of HB 2427. The addition of a clear definition of "qualified teacher" for bilingual programs in our school districts should add to the quality of those programs. Children who need bilingual services in order to improve their English language skills should receive the services of a qualified instructor.

We encourage you to report HB 2427 favorably for action. Thank you.

Attachment VI

House Education 3/3/87



ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF KANSAS

The Student Governments of the State Universities

Suite 608 • Capitol Towers • 400 S.W. 8th St. • Topeka, Ks. 66603 • (913) 354-1394

Christine A. Graves
Executive Director

Mark E. Tallman
*Director of Legislative Affairs
and Development*

MEMBERS:

Associated Student Government
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Memorial Union
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Student Government Association
Kansas State University
Student Union
Manhattan, Kansas 66506
913-532-6541

Student Government Association
Pittsburg State University
Student Union
Pittsburg, Kansas 66762
316-231-7000 ext. 4813

Student Government Association
University of Kansas
Burge Union
Lawrence, Kansas 66045
913-864-3710

Student Government Association
The Wichita State University
Campus Activities Center
Wichita, Kansas 67208
316-689-3480

TO: House Education Committee
FROM: Mark Tallman, Legislative Director
DATE: March 3, 1987

RE: HB 2481 -- Postsecondary Education Information Program

Position

The committee voted to introduce this bill at ASK's request. We strongly support its passage, although we will be suggesting an amendment to reduce the cost of the program.

Introduction

With its favorable recommendation of HB 2102, restructuring higher education governance, this committee has endorsed the idea of greater coordination and efficiency in Kansas higher education. We believe the program established by this bill is a natural extension of that concept, and that the means of achieving the goals we set forth for it would be simplified under HB 2102.

We believe students should be at the heart of the educational system, and that students will be best served by having the greatest possible information on the choices and services the educational system can offer them. While each individual part of that system may try to "sell itself" to students, currently no one has the responsibility to give to students "the whole picture" of higher education in Kansas. This bill would correct that situation.

The Bill

The bill established the Kansas Postsecondary education information program, which has the purpose of "providing students and prospective students of institutions of postsecondary education with information necessary for such students to make the educational and career choices most suited to their individual needs and desires."

Section 2 lists the subject areas that should be covered, and provides that the Board of Regents be responsible for the preparation and distribution of publications it considers appropriate to disseminate information on these areas, or to work with other institutions and organizations through projects to do so.

Section 2 also provides that the Board may offset part of the expenses of the program through establishing fees for students or participating institutions.

(more)

Section 3 establishes an advisory committee for the program. We proposed this provision to insure that the various sectors would be represented, as well as students from the various sectors. However, under HB 2102, various sectors will be represented through the Board of Regents. We would also expect that the Student Advisory Committee to the Board would be expanded to include students from the different sectors. Therefore, we would suggest that Section 3 simply be deleted. This would greatly reduce the fiscal note of the bill, and make its structure more simple.

Finally, Section 4 provides that the financing of the program could be from any combination of state appropriations, donations or grants, and fees. The Board would be free to make grants to other institutions or organizations to actually effectuate program, so that new staff would not have to be hired. We would stress that this bill itself has virtually no fiscal note, and although we are seeking funding for the program through the appropriations process, we believe there are several sources of funding outside the state general fund.

Why We Believe This Program Is Necessary

1. To provide materials directly to students, which could be taken home and shared with the family. Such information could and should be integrated into good counseling programs, and supplement weaker ones.
2. To address the remedial education problem by making students more aware of steps they should take to prepare for college, and of institutional standards and expectations.
3. To address the college drop-out problem by helping students make better choices in the first place, based on objective information about an institution's advising and retention programs, special services and student body.
4. To address the transfer problem by compiling data on course equivalency, "2+2" programs, joint and cooperative programs, and advice to transferring students.
5. To address the "brain drain" problem by showcasing quality programs in Kansas schools that many students may not be aware of; by presenting information on career opportunities in Kansas; and outlining special programs for top students.

Why We Believe a Bill is Desirable

The Board of Regents could pursue avenues for disseminating information to students without this bill. But unfortunately, they have not done so. This bill would specifically vest responsibility for these areas with the Board. By passage of this bill, the Legislature would be sending a message that it expects these responsibilities to be carried out, and would be providing a mechanism to do so.

KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS

SUITE 609 • CAPITOL TOWER • 400 SW EIGHTH • TOPEKA, KANSAS 66603-3911 • (913) 296-3421

March 3, 1987

The Honorable Denise Apt
Representative of the State of Kansas
182-W, Statehouse
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Apt:

I regret that I will be out of town the afternoon of March 3 and, therefore, unable to testify before your committee regarding House Bill No. 2481. As you know, the bill would establish a Kansas post-secondary education information program to provide students with information regarding educational and career choices.

I see several problems with the bill. First, I believe we can satisfy the listing of desired information as described in Section 2 of the bill by reinforcing both Board and institutional efforts presently in place which could be accomplished at little or no cost. Secondly, in this regard, I am troubled by Section 2 (13)(c) which permits the Board to charge students for the cost of the program. Finally, the advisory committee authorized in Section 3 may be not only unwieldy, but quite costly to maintain. As an alternative in this regard, I would suggest that since we already have a statutorily authorized Students' Advisory Committee to the Kansas Board of Regents, we utilize the services of that body for information and advising the Board with regard to the kinds and types of information needed by students and prospective students at our Regents institutions.

Furthermore, I would add that we believe we are accomplishing much of the intent in House Bill 2481 through a budget request currently contained within the Board of Regents office for FY 1988. We have asked for funding to support a "student guide" consisting of several of the key elements described as desirable subject matter for students.

My point is simply that the apparent objectives of House Bill 2481 can be accomplished without additional statutory authorization or requirements. The concept embodied in House Bill 2481 is sound as it relates to making information available to students; I believe we can accomplish this through existing means.

Attachment VIII
House Education 3/3/87

The Honorable Denise Apt

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March 3, 1987

Again, I regret that I cannot appear before the committee, but appreciate the opportunity to convey these thoughts.

Sincerely,



Stanley Z. Koplik
Executive Director

cc: Mr. Mark Tallman

Wichita Federation of Teachers

Local 725, American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL NO. 2214

James E. Copple
Legislative Director
Wichita Federation of Teachers

Madame Chairman, members of the House Education Committee, the Wichita Federation of Teachers rose in support of House Bill No. 2103 which recommended that we move the age requirements for attendance in Kindegarten and First Grade from September 1st to June 1st. Research and survey literature in early childhood education supports the contention that children need the added three months of maturation for a successful learning experience in these grades. However, testimony that day suggested that the ideal situation would be the development of screening devices to determine educational, emotional and physical readiness. It is in the absence of those screening devices that we urged support of HB. 2103.

Today we rise in support of HB. 2214, if in fact, HB 2214 would guarantee the development and implementation of screening devices to determine readiness for school. No child, who is determined to be emotionally, physically and intellectually ready for school should be denied the right to school services. James Uphoff and June Gilmore writing in Educational Leadership, in September of 1985, argue that schools could "use a well-designed pupil developmental assessment process to determine readiness to enter kindegarten or to be promoted to first grade." The authors assert that "such a screening process takes time, personnel, and equipment, but may be well worth the effort."

Therefore, Madame Chairman, we endorse the idea of developing screening devices that would determine a child's readiness to enter first grade. If HB. 2214 were passed, favorably, we would need these assessments in order to determine the correct placement of the child. This legislation would benefit only a few children - but those children should not be hindered for lack of screening devices that determine educational readiness.