

Approved Thomas F. Walker 2 -88  
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

The meeting was called to order by Representative Thomas F. Walker at  
Chairperson

9:00 a.m. ~~###~~ on Wednesday, February 24, 1988 in room 522-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

- Representative Graeber
  - Representative Sebelius
  - Representative Peterson
- Committee staff present:

- Avis Swartzman - Revisor
- Carolyn Rampey - Legislative Research Dept.
- Mary Galligan - Legislative Research Dept.
- Jackie Breymeyer - Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

- Representative Dorothy Flottman
- Dr. Howard P. Killough, Winfield, KS
- Joseph Nambo, Wichita, KS
- Murvin G. Jacob, Topeka, KS
- Representative Nancy Brown
- Robin Wells, Overland Park, KS
- Sue Steel, Shawnee, KS

Representative Thomas F. Walker, Chairman, called the meeting to order. He stated the minutes would be approved if there were no corrections or additions at the end of the meeting.

HB 2945 - designating December 7 of each year as Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

Chairman Walker welcomed Representative Dorothy Flottman, bill sponsor, to the committee. Representative Flottman distributed copies of her testimony to the committee. (Attachment 1) She stated that when members of the Kansas Pearl Harbor Survivors Association asked her to introduce a bill designating December 7 of each year as Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, she was only too happy to agree to the request. She spoke of the gratitude owed to those members of the armed forces who lost their lives in the attack on Pearl Harbor and commended the survivors who performed their duties so capably after the attack which eventually led to our victory. Passage of this bill would serve as a reminder to all Kansans that we should be ever vigilant and would also assure the Pearl Harbor survivors that Kansans appreciate the sacrifices they made so we can enjoy the freedoms we have. Representative Flottman introduced Dr. Howard P. Killough, Legislative Chairman for the Department of Kansans of the National Pearl Harbor Survivors Association, and Joseph L. Nambo, President, Wichita Chapter, Pearl Harbor Survivors Association.

Dr. Killough spoke next in support of HB 2945. He told how he reported for duty on December 7 and worked through Sunday and Monday examining casualties and performing surgery. He told how the cost of materials was great, but the cost in life and suffering is something that can never be erased. Dr. Killough said he only mentioned this to stress the importance of this as a reminder to all Kansans of the sacrifices made so that we might be able to live in freedom today. (Attachment 2)

Joseph L. Nambo was next to address the bill. He stated that this day that President Roosevelt said was a day that would live in infamy should not be forgotten. Much of the transportation, manufacturing, medicine, social behavior and family order for generations to come dates back to December 7, 1941. Many students today do not even know the significance of the date. This must not be allowed to happen. The Pearl Harbor Survivors Association is not asking for a holiday as that would cost the state money. All they are asking for is for the state to remember Pearl Harbor. (Attachment 3)

The Chairman asked if there was anyone else present who wished to speak to the bill.

Murvin Jacob, Topeka, spoke briefly. He was with the 25th Division, Army Air Corps. The motto was 'tropical lightning' and 'do not surrender'.

The Chairman thanked everyone for coming and for serving their country. It is a unique thing and everyone can remember where he was that day and what he was doing when the attack on Pearl Harbor was made.

The Committee turned its attention to HB 2825 - Commission on autism.

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.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

room 522-S, Statehouse, at 9:00 a.m./p.m. on Wednesday, February 24, 1988

Representative Brown, spoke briefly, saying that eight members of the Governmental Organization have their names on this bill. She introduced Robin Wells, Overland Park, and Sue Steel, Topeka, who were present to speak on the bill.

Ms. Wells was first to speak to the bill. She said she was present because of the deep concern she feels for individuals disabled by autism and their families. As a speech-language pathologist in an educational setting, she has been able to view first hand the present condition of the services for this group. Autism services in the state have been, and still remain, at a grave deficit. Ms. Wells listed 13 areas of severe inadequancies which dealt with information, diagnosis, support services, training, education and research. Ms. Wells said that legislation is needed to allow this hard-to-serve population the opportunity that other individuals with disabilities have. A commission composed of members of state agencies, parents, and others, would be of great benefit to this group. (Attachment 4)

Sue Steel, Topeka, was present to testify from a parent's perspective.

Mrs. Steel is the mother of a 24-year old man disabled by autism. She said that HB 2825 would benefit her son, as well as other individuals with autism and their families. She shared several problems which were brought to her attention by a number of families across the state.

There is no cure for autism at this time, however, there are a number of research projects in process throughout the country.

In closing, Mrs. Steel thanked those Representatives who sponsored the bill. She expressed her gratitude for having the opportunity to speak in behalf of her son and others disabled by autism in the state. (Attachment 5)

Representative Brown said the Governor is in favor of this bill. The reason it is better to have it go through the committee process instead of executive order is to make the people aware of what autism is.

The Chairman closed the hearing on HB 2825. He asked for action on the bill.

Representative Sughrue moved to pass HB 2825 favorably.

Representative Hassler gave a second to the motion. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned.

GUEST LIST

COMMITTEE: GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

DATE: FEBRUARY 24, 1988

NAME	ADDRESS	COMPANY/ORGANIZATION
Mary Zelman	1618 S.W. 28 Terr.	parent / KANSAS
Dorinda Thompson	1940 Meadow Lane	Retiree - P.H.S
Stephen Schiffelbein	2700 W. 6th <sup>Biddle Bldg</sup> 2nd Floor	Rehab Services (SRS)
Betty J. Kane	3121 N. 84TH. KCK	PARENT / KANSAS
Rubin A. Stella	10999 Hillside St. O.P.Ka	Autism - SSCA, Inc.
Aue Steele	6119 Hallet, Shawnee Ks	Parent - Autism
Margene Dipaling	5826 S.W. 28 St. W. Ter	Parent Autism
Ralph Engel	815 Burgess	PEARL HARBOR
Joe NAMBO	1740 ELLIS	PEARL HARBOR
James H. Seitz	1555 2nd Ave. East Horton, Ks	Pearl Harbor
Vernice Stephens	1019 Quinson Topeka	P.H. SA. 9028 Honolulu
Ray Kelly	1119 W 10th, Suite 2 Topeka 66604	TRCH
H. E. McCauley	10864 Bradshaw O.P. Ks 66210	PHSA
J.H. Kennedy	2951 N 45th KCK 66104	USS VESTAL Pearl Harbor
Robert J. Wheeler	R2 Box 18 <sup>Ward</sup> Ks 6671	25th DIVISION Schiefel Barracks PHSA
Charles Risher	7845 Sandusky KCK 66106	USA OKLA. PHSA
R. Howard P. Wilhoit	0328 College Winfield Ks	RASA
Rep. Dorothy Flottman	815 E. 9th St Winfield	Kansas Legislature
Robert Tucker		UFW Topeka
James J. Harvey	4530 State Line KCK	Pearl Harbor Survivors
Gary M. Krutz	5165 NE. Ind. Cir	Topeka
John R. Hughes Jr.	318 MCCABE WINFIELD KAN	PHSA
Earl J. Powell		PHSA Carbondale / 62644
Morris D. Jacob	2924 E 21st	Topeka PHSA

# Guest List

- D. H. Anderson - 619 Willow, Ottawa Ks. - <sup>PHSA</sup> U.S.M.C. Co. C. Security Patrol  
 Wm N. Tucker 5434 Birch S.M.K. 66205 PHSA  
 David L Keller 1024 S 57 K.C. 66186 PHSA  
 Rudy Kopp 2419 No 72 Pl KCK 66109 PHSA  
 Harry Helmsing 5041 Clark Dr Roeland Park Ks PHSA  
 Joe E Brant 10310 Manor Rd Seawood Ks PHSA  
 Joe N Ambro 1740 Ellis Wichita Ks PHSA  
 RICHARD E. WILLIAMS 5006 W. 57<sup>th</sup> TERR. <sup>MISSION</sup>, Ks. PHSA  
 Fred Spitzengel 2832 S. 8<sup>th</sup> Terr. KCK 66103 PHSA  
 Ralph GARRINGER 4520 STATE KCK 66102 PHSA  
 Ellsworth M. Doremy 5632 W. 97<sup>th</sup> St. O.P., Ks 66207 PHSA  
 Gordon Hickey 3901 E. 104<sup>th</sup> St. A.C. 66157 PHSA  
 Clifford Fitts 1434 Star meadow Lawrence 66044 PHSA  
 Ejolf Schmidt 13009 W 96<sup>th</sup> Lenexa 66215 PHSA

STATE OF KANSAS

DOROTHY H. FLOTTMAN  
REPRESENTATIVE, SEVENTY-EIGHTH DISTRICT  
815 EAST 9TH STREET  
WINFIELD, KANSAS 67156-2941



TOPEKA

HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS  
MEMBER: EDUCATION  
ELECTIONS  
PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE  
ADVISORY COMMISSION ON  
JUVENILE OFFENDER PROGRAMS

To: Government Organization Committee  
DATE: February 24, 1988  
RE: House Bill No. 2945 - PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY

Thank you Chairman Walker and members of the committee for this opportunity to testify in support of House Bill No. 2945.

When several members of the Kansas Pearl Harbor Survivor's Association asked me to introduce a bill designating December 7th of each year as PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY, I was only too happy to agree to their request.

We owe a great deal of gratitude to those members of the armed forces of the United States who lost their lives during the December 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor. In addition, we should commend the survivors who so capably performed their duties following the attack which eventually led to our victory.

Passage of the PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY bill would serve as a reminder to all Kansans that we should be ever mindful of our need to maintain our nation's vigilance and preparedness. It would also assure Pearl Harbor survivors that Kansans appreciate the freedoms we continue to enjoy because of the sacrifices made on December 7, 1941 by those giving their lives and by those who survived.

Mr. Chairman, we have present two survivors of the Pearl Harbor attack who would like to testify in support of House Bill No. 2945.

*Dorothy H. Flottman*

ATTACHMENT 1

*G.O. Comm. 2/24/88*



# Pearl Harbor Survivors Association,

GREATER WICHITA CHAPTER  
101 EAST 31st STREET SOUTH  
WICHITA, KANSAS 67216

February 24, 1988

## TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF BILL # 2945

Presented by: Dr. Howard P. Killough of Winfield, Kansas; Legislative Chairman for the Department of Kansas of the National Pearl Harbor Survivors Association and appointed by the Kansas State Chairman, Donald S. Spitzengel of Kansas City, Kansas.

Chairman Walker and members of the Government Organizational Committee. I appreciate the opportunity to be present with this committee to plea for the passage of House Bill #2945 sponsored by Representative Flottman and eighty other of your colleagues.

On December 7, 1941, I reported for duty at the Schofield Barracks Hospital and for the first two hours I was Triage officer, having the duty to examine casualties to determine which one would go to surgery next. After that I was called into surgery where I spent the rest of Sunday, Sunday night and into Monday morning. All of the aircraft on the Island of Oahu and practically everything afloat in Pearl Harbor was either totally destroyed or extensively damaged. The cost of materials was great, but the cost in human life and the suffering of those maimed for the remainder of their lives and those scared inwardly that time will not erase--there is no price that can be placed upon those casualties.

I have only mentioned those things to help us realize the importance of House Bill #2945 as an annual reminder to all Kansans through all time of the sacrifices that have been made that they might continue to have the freedom that we enjoy today.

This committee has within its power today to say "Yes, we in Kansas will Remember Pearl Harbor and Keep America Strong". I also feel that in your wisdom you will make that decision.

Again, thank you, Chairman Walker and all you Committee members for allowing us this opportunity to meet with you today, and a special thanks to Representative Flottman and the eighty Co-sponsors for their hours of preparation of this bill.

ATTACHMENT 2

G.O. Comm. 2/24/88



# Pearl Harbor Survivors Association, Inc.

JOSEPH L NAMBO PRESIDENT WICHITA CHAPTER  
1740 ELLIS WICHITA KANSAS 67211 (316) 267 49

TESTIMONY ON H.B. 2945

BY

JOSEPH L NAMBO PRESIDENT OF THE WICHITA CHAPTER  
PEARL HARBOR SURVIVORS ASSOCIATION INC.

FEBRUARY 24, 1988

CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE, WE APPRECIATE THE OPPORTUNITY TO APPEAR TODAY ON BEHALF OF THE MEMBERS OF THE PEARL HARBOR SURVIVORS OF THE STATE OF KANSAS.

WHY A PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY IN THE STATE OF KANSAS. THIS DAY THAT PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT SAID WOULD LIVE IN INFAMY SHOULD NOT BE FORGOTTEN. THE HISTORICAL EVENTS PRECEDING DURING AND AFTER THIS INFAMOUS ATTACK SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO FADE INTO HISTORY LIKE "REMEMBER THE MAINE" EVEN THOUGH DECEMBER 7, 1941 COULD CATEGORIZED AS A DEFEAT, NEVERTHELESS PEARL HARBOR WAS A SPRINGBOARD FROM WHICH MANY OPERATIONS WERE LAUNCHED WHICH LEAD TO THE ULTIMATE DEFEAT OF THE JAPANESE FORCES AND VICTORY FOR THE UNITED STATES. IT ALSO UNITED THIS GREAT NATION OF OURS INTO ONE BIG EFFORT IN PROVIDING THE MATERIALS THAT WERE NEEDED TO DEFEAT OUR ENEMIES. TRANSPORTATION, MANUFACTURING, MEDICINE, SOCIAL BEHAVIOR AND FAMILY ORDER FOR GENERATIONS TO COME CAN BE FOUNDED TO DECEMBER 7, 1941.

IN AN ARTICLE OFF DECEMBER 8, 1981 APPEARING IN THE ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT THE HEADLINE READ "PEARL HARBOR QUARY STUMPS 1 IN 6." ACCORDING TO THE ARTICLE IN A POLL CONDUCTED BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS AND NBC NEWS. THEY WERE ASKED THE QUESTION "DO YOU KNOW WHY PEARL HARBOR IS IMPORTANT IN AMERICAN HISTORY?" SIXTEEN PERCENT EITHER SAID NO, SAID THEY WERE NOT SURE OR INCORRECTLY IDENTIFIED PEARL HARBOR. ACCORDING TO THE POLL LESS THAN TWO THIRDS OF THE RESPONDENTS WHO HAD GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL KNEW THE SIGNIFICANCE OF PEARL HARBOR. AS SHOCKING AS IT MAY SEEM THE POLL REVEALED THAT ONE OUT OF EVERY SIX ADULT AMERICANS CANNOT CORRECTLY IDENTIFY THAT DAY PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT SAID WOULD LIVE IN INFAMY. WE MUST NOT ALLOW THE YOUTH OF AMERICA TO GROW UP IN IGNORANCE NOR THE OLDER GENERATIONS TO FORGET THIS, THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF OUR HISTORY SINCE 1776. THIS DATE IN OUR HISTORY SHOULD TAUGHT US AND THE REST OF THE FREE WORLD SOME IMPORTANT LESSONS.

ON OCTOBER THE 22ND OF 1987, GOVERNOR MIKE HAYDEN SIGNED A PROCLAMATION PROCLAMAING DEC. 7TH 1987 "PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY." IT WOULD BE DIFFCULT FOR US TO FOLLOW THIS PROCEDURE IN THE FUTURE DUE TO OUR AGE'S. WE NEED A PERMANENT STATUS FOR EVERY DEC 7TH IN THE FUTURE TO BE DELCARED "PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY". WE ARE NOT TRYING TO DECLARE THIS A STATE HOLIDAY, AS THIS WOULD COST MONEY, ALL WE WANT IS FOR THE STATE TO REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR AND KEEP AMERICA ALERT! THANK YOU.

ATTACHMENT 3

*G.O. Comm. 2/24/88*



**SUPPORT  
SERVICES  
FOR CITIZENS  
WITH AUTISM, INC.**

6119 HALLET  
SHAWNEE, KANSAS 66216  
(913) 631-6237

A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION DEDICATED TO BUILDING A BETTER LIFE

DATE: February 24, 1988

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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TO: Governmental Organization Committee  
Representative Thomas E. Walker, Chair  
Representative Elaine R. Hassler, Vice-Chair  
Committee Members

FROM: Robin A. Wells - Overland Park

RE: House Bill No. 2825 - COMMISSION ON AUTISM

Chairman Walker, Vice-Chair Hassler and other respected committee members: I greatly appreciate the opportunity to address this committee regarding House Bill No. 2825 which will establish a COMMISSION ON AUTISM. It is with deep concern for individuals disabled by autism and their families that I urge this committee to support House Bill No. 2825.

As a member of the TASK FORCE ON AUTISM, a long-time advocate of persons with autism and their families, and a speech-language pathologist in an educational setting, I have been able to have first hand experience in the present condition of services for this unique population. All services in the state of Kansas for autism have been, and still remain, at a grave deficit.

The TASK FORCE ON AUTISM report you recently received documents severe inadequacies in: 1) dissemination of current information about autism; 2) the diagnosis of autism/training of physicians; 3) the provision of support services for families of



individuals with autism; 4) the provision of early intervention (pre-school and home visit/training); 5) educational opportunities; 6) adequate teacher preparation and on-going teacher support; 7) residential choices; 8) vocational placement (competitive employment); 9) respite care services; 10) crisis care; 11) applied research; 12) accurate reporting of incidence of autism; and 13) the recognition of the various disability levels of autism. This information was compiled from surveys sent to the Board of Regents, state agencies/facilities, Kansas local education agencies, and from a review of state rules and regulations. Other information in the report was collected from the most current knowledge in the field of autism. Members of the TASK FORCE committee wish to facilitate a change in these deficit areas. It is felt that the best way to ensure implementation and/or re-evaluation of the recommendations and goals of the TASK FORCE report would be through the establishment of a COMMISSION ON AUTISM.

Legislative support is needed to allow this hard-to-serve population the opportunities which have been awarded to other individuals with developmental disabilities. This population no longer needs to be placed "last on the list" for services because of misconceptions, or lack of knowledge in the best intervention techniques. A COMMISSION which would develop, cooperatively implement, monitor, and evaluate changes in the provision of services is in the best interest of this unserved population. COMMISSION members should include state agencies representatives, parents, advocates, and other persons who are

apprised of the needs and dedicated to effect change in behalf of persons with autism.

The need to document the whereabouts of the unreported 3,391 persons disabled by autism in the state of Kansas is crucial. Ill-suited programming for these individuals must not continue. Misdiagnosis, incorrect placement, inappropriate intervention techniques, and pre-imposed limitations must cease.

Individuals with autism and their families continue the struggle to receive existing services available to others. With the implementation of House Bill No. 2825 (COMMISSION ON AUTISM), the struggle may not have to continue another forty-five years. I urge you to approve and further support House Bill No. 2825.

February 24, 1988

To: Governmental Organization Committee  
Representative Thomas Walker, Chair

From: Sue Steele  
6119 Hallet  
Shawnee, Kansas 66216  
(913) 631-6237

Re: HB 2825

My name is Sue Steele and I am the mother of a 24 yr. old man disabled by autism. This morning I want to tell you, from a parent's perspective, why HB 2825 is so important and how a Commission on Autism will benefit my son and other Kansas individuals with autism and their families.

First let me share with you problems brought to my attention recently by a number of families across the state:

1. Johnson/Wyandotte Counties- three newly diagnosed (under 3 yrs. old) children; parents seeking educational programs, doctors, etc.- None available
2. A Johnson County family had to place their 12 yr. old son, far from home, in a state institution because of the lack of crisis intervention service to the family.
3. A Topeka family is presently in a crisis situation. Their young teenage son is having problems both at school and at home. Another teenage boy continues to have problems at school. There is no service in our state, for the school or parents, to help them through a possible short term crisis.
4. Two families from Johnson and Wyandotte Counties with sons ages 5 and 13 having somewhat the same problems as above. Again, no service.
5. A Lawrence family needing a doctor knowledgeable about autism for their 18 yr. old daughter.
6. A Wichita family (very active in advocating for individuals with autism) spent over a month in Los Angeles, California to seek out appropriate evaluation and programming for their 24 yr. old son. A few weeks later the father passed away and the mother now has sole responsibility for the son and no possible placement in our state.
7. A high functioning 31 yr. old woman from Johnson County has gone through every agency offering service to disabled individuals. Her job placements failed because those assisting her were not aware of the special needs of persons with autism.

These are but a few problems we are facing. My husband and I can relate to each of the crisis these families are going through. We have been through the

*G.O. Comm. 2/24/88 Attachment 5*

ATTACHMENT 5  
*G.O. Comm. 2/24/88*

search for a proper diagnoses; knowledgeable doctors, dentist, etc. Our son was not given a public education until the age of 10 (thanks to the passage of P.L.94-142 The Education of All Handicapped Children Act). There were no programs or services available to him when he reached the age of 21. The search began all over. We found service providers and decision makers of these services were not knowledgeable about autism or did they offer to change their program to meet the needs of persons with autism.

There is still no know cause or cure of autism. However, there are a number of research projects in process throughout the country. There are now successful teaching techniques available for the very young through adulthood; the most severe and the high functioning.

The findings and recommendations of the task force on autism (created under 1987 House Concurrent Resolution No. 5017) addresses all the issues pointed out. Families have lived lives of total frustration far too long. Most importantly, we have cheated these individuals with autism because of our ignorance. Please help by supporting and recommending for the passage of HB 2825. The Commission on Autism must be established to implement the recommendations and it is most important that the Commission monitor developments within the field of autism. It must keep service providers of our state informed of updated attitudes and teaching techniques.

In closing, I want to especially thank Representative Nancy Brown for sponsoring this bill and to Representatives Barr, Graeber, Harder, Hassler, Ramirez, Sebelius and Weimer for supporting it as co-sponsors. I am sincerely grateful to all of you for giving me this opportunity to speak on behalf of my son and other individuals disabled by autism in Kansas.