

Approved February 8 1989
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The meeting was called to order by Elizabeth Baker at
Chairperson

3:34 ~~xxx~~ p.m. on Tuesday, January 31, 1989 in room 313-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representatives Heinemann, Kline and Foster. Excused.

Committee staff present:
Lynne Holt, Research
Elaine Johnson, Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:
Shirley McCune of Mid-continent Regional Education Laboratory

The meeting was called to order at 3:34 p.m. by Chairman Baker. A welcome was given to the Education Committee by Chairman Baker. Shirley McCune of Mid-continent Regional Education Laboratory was recognized.

Ms. McCune went over a report entitled "Kansas Environmental Scan" with the committee. This report is on file in the Legislative Research Department, Room 545-N.

A brief summary of the report follows:

Rural economic development needs greater attention. The loss of farms and workers from the rural areas is not only a source of local and human loss, but also a weakening of the total state economy. Rural economic development requires access to economic development and educational resources. Such services must be available for all geographic areas. Greater effort needs to be given to small business development and an increase in managerial and entrepreneurial education. Continuing effort must be made to attract new jobs and industries to the state. Examination of state policies should be undertaken to find ways of encouraging development and ensuring access for rural areas, involvement of vocational education, training programs and the extension service should be increased in efforts to help marginal farmers through training and consultation. Continuing efforts to improve the quality of basic K-12 education should be expanded especially in rural schools. Technology should be used to expand the capability of schools to provide human resource development services for all groups. Support and encouragement of higher education institutions should be made in pursuing research and transfer technologies which can strengthen Kansas business and industry.

A general overview of Kansas demographic factors suggest the following:

The rate of population growth will be small and uneven throughout the state. This would suggest disparities and readjustments over the state, primarily in the area of meeting new service delivery requirements. The higher than average proportion of the older population and very young children, suggests a strong need for services to these dependent populations. Greater attention needs to be given to retaining young adults who may be leaving the state for better job opportunities. This loss of a critical state resource further weakens state resources. There is need for increased attention to the delivery of programs in rural areas and the need for greater cooperation among health, education and social services. Comparatively little attention is given to the problems of racial-ethnic minority groups, especially within educational areas. There is a critical need for ensuring that schools provide the basic skills necessary for their full participation in society. The needs of children appeared to have experienced some level of beginning neglect. Increasing levels of poverty and child abuse are indicators of potential problems and there is need for protecting children and providing support services. There is need for programs which can strengthen families and help parents manage stress.

The data provided support quality schools and a good general school system. Kansas compares favorably among states and the basic skills needs of about 50 percent of the students are being addressed. In general, Kansas provides educational programs that characterized the needs of an industrial and to some extent, an agricultural age. Even within the strengths of the system, there are signs of the need for improvement. The larger issue, however, is not simply to improve on the schools of the past but to restructure schools in ways that can meet the changed and changing conditions in Kansas.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
room 313-S, Statehouse, at 3:34 ~~xxx~~ p.m. on Tuesday, January 31, 1989

Some of the critical issues which must be addressed are the following:

There is need for a restructuring and redesign of educational programs. There is a need for recognizing and encouraging progress and achievement. There is need for greater communication and collaboration between KSDE and social welfare organizations.

Ms. McCune responded to questions from the committee.

Chairman Baker thanked Ms. McCune for coming and for the excellent report.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

*Elizabeth
Baker*

Date: 1/31/89

GUEST REGISTER

H O U S E

Committee on Economic Development and Education

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Craig Grant	K-NEA	Topeka
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Elin Jones	Teacher	Abilene, KS
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Mary Ellen Simon	Ks. Lg. of Women Voters	Topeka
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Terry Decker	KDOC	Topeka
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Ken Rogay	S R E	Paola
Judy Frost	City Topeka	→
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JAMES HAYS	TOPEKA	KASB USA
Merle Hice	"	KACC
TEVIN ROBERTSON	TOPEKA	1/3 Area of AVI School
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