

Approved March 6, 1989
Date

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

The meeting was called to order by SENATOR JOSEPH C. HARDER at
Chairperson

1:30 ~~a.m.~~/p.m. on Wednesday, March 1, 1989 in room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present:

Mr. Ben Barrett, Legislative Research Department
Mrs. Avis Swartzman, Revisor's Office
Mrs. Millie Randell, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

SB 265 - Qualified admissions, state educational institutions, (Education)

Opponents:

Mr. John W. Koepke, Executive Director, Kansas Association of School Boards
Mr. Craig Grant, Director of Political Action, Kansas-National Education Assn.
Ms. Brilla Highfill Scott, Associate Executive Director, United School Administrators of Kansas
Mr. Ken Rogg, Legislative Representative, Schools for Quality Education
Dr. David DePue, Executive Director, Kansas Council on Vocational Education
Mr. Onan Burnett, Director, Governmental Affairs, USD 501
Dr. Phyllis Chase, Director of Guidance, USD 501

The Chairman called the meeting to order and recognized the first conferee to speak in opposition to SB 265, Mr. John W. Koepke, Executive Director, Kansas Association of School Boards. (Attachment 1)

Mr. Craig Grant stated that Kansas-NEA supports the current system of admissions to our Regents schools and believes the public has not received sound educational rationale to change its support. (Attachment 2)

Testimony by Ms. Brilla Highfill Scott, Associate Executive Director, United School Administrators of Kansas, reported that the results of a recent survey showed that 79% of U.S.A.'s administrators favored the open admissions policy at the state universities. (Attachment 3)

Schools for Quality Education representative, Mr. Ken Rogg, noted that students now are more limited in making some alternative choices in education because of the twenty-two-unit requirement mandated by the legislature for graduation from high school. He described the effects this requirement has had on some students in their decision to attend vocational education classes and asserted that some students must forego enrollment in vocational education classes in order to complete the necessary requirements for graduation. Mr. Rogg stated that he is strongly in favor of retaining the present open admissions policy to Kansas' institutions of higher learning.

Dr. David DePue stated that restrictive admission programs would discriminate against four of the constituencies which he represents as executive director of the Kansas Council on Vocational Education. Present law, he said, does not discriminate against any group. (Attachment 4)

Mr. Onan Burnett, representing USD 501, stated that he opposes SB 265, because it would be very unfair to the poor and disadvantaged who do not have adequate role models to follow for stimulation of motivation for achievement.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION,
room 123-S, Statehouse, at 1:30 ~~xxx~~/p.m. on Wednesday, March 1, 1989.

USD 501 Director of Student Service, Dr. Phyllis A Chase, stated that the Topeka Public Schools unequivocally opposes the qualified admissions proposal in its current form, as well as its formulation process, (Attachment 5)

Following testimony by Dr. Chase and hearing no further response from conferees, the Chair stated that the hearing on SB 265 was concluded.

With time permitting, the Chair gave the floor to members who posed questions regarding testimony on SB 265. Dr. Stanley Z. Koplik, Executive Director, Kansas Board of Regents, was present to respond to questions for further clarification of SB 265. Dr. Koplik reiterated previous testimony regarding qualified admissions. He made special mention of the fifteen percent "open window" concept through which an additional 3,000 students could be accepted, based on current freshman enrollment figures. Dr. Koplik's response to one question was that although it would not be the Board's preference, it would be willing to state the proposed Regents school entry qualifications in statutory language in order for the bill to be passed. He reminded the Committee that the legislature would retain power to override the rules and regulations that would be promulgated by the Regents Board as provided in SB 265.

Dr. Koplik also replied that total cost for remedial education services at the state's universities is roughly \$700,000 per year. Dr. Koplik responded that although the cost of attrition is very difficult to isolate, he would try to obtain an answer.

Mr. John Koepke, responding to a question, stated that the only way to cure the problem of providing remedial instruction to entering freshmen at college is to make them adhere to the standards as set forth by the Board of Regents and not permit the students to enter a Regents institution if we have to provide remedial service.

Senator Allen moved, and Senator Karr seconded the motion to approve minutes of the meeting on February 28. The motion carried.

The Chair reminded the Committee of a meeting tomorrow and adjourned the meeting.

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

TIME: 1:30 p.m. PLACE: 123-S DATE: Wednesday, March 1, 1989

GUEST LIST

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>
KAY COLES	Topeka	K-NEA
Cindy Kelly	Topeka	KASB
Maryanne Hunt	Shawnee	Winton
Bob Kelly	Topeka	KICA
Mary Entropy	Topeka	DOB
Dick Hertschmidt	Hutchinson	—
Dave Clayton	Hutchinson	—
C. Marguerite Klein	Neosho	CAUW
Lillie Goering	Moundridge	AAUW
Ellen Kling	Moundridge	AAUW
Wm. Hall	Topeka	
Kevin Robertson	TOPEKA	the Assoc of AVT School
John W. Shuchman	Manhattan	KSU
R Brown	legislative intern	DBW
Tim Computer	Law. J-W.	
in fossil	Lawrence	KY
Craig Grant	Topeka	K-NEA
Lisa M. Drake	Tsarna	observed
Harold C. Pitts	Topeka	KRTA
Charles L. Stewart	Topeka	USA
Alan Meyer	Lawrence	ADK
Brenda Jugh		AP
Ken Kooze	Paola	SBE
John Koept	Topeka	KASB

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

TIME: 1:30 p.m. PLACE: 123-S DATE: Wednesday, March 1, 1989

GUEST LIST

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>
Chas Burnett	Topeka	USD 501#
Shyllist Chase	Topeka	USD 501
Van Egue	Topeka	KCOVE
Scott Sewell	Manhattan	Manhattan Chamber of Commerce
Wesley Parker	Manhattan	Kansas Farm Bureau
Mark Tallman	Topeka	ASK
Chris Graves	Topeka	ASK
Ruth Welton	Topeka	AAUP
Mary Ellen Simon	Topeka	Lb. of Women Voters
Dave Eye	Topeka	A.S.H.
Brenda Keerskov	Wichita	Kg. Fed. of Teachers
Brandia A. Silvers	Topeka	K-NEA
Milda Enoch	Lawrence	League of Women Voters
Karen Kelly	OP	Sen
Kelly McElhinney	Lawrence	Rep. Vanaman
Becky Shirley	Topeka	Intern
Stanley Z. Koplik	Topeka	Rights
Martine J. Hammond	Topeka	Ka. Bd. of Regents
Maryann Chandler	Manassas	SAU 11
Jan Deemer Stark	Lawrence	League of Women Voters
Kaye Miller	Lawrence	u/v. of Kans
Juan Siepker	Moran	Intern/Rep. Kline
Merle Hise	Topeka	ALCC



Testimony on SB 265
before the
Senate Education Committee

by

John W. Koepke, Executive Director
Kansas Association of School Boards

February 28, 1989

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, we appreciate the opportunity to appear before you on behalf of the 301 member boards of education of the Kansas Association of School Boards. Our association has devoted many hours of study to the subject matter of SB 265. We have heard eloquent speakers and reviewed much printed material on both sides of this important issue.

Following this study and review, our members voted overwhelmingly at our Delegate Assembly last fall to continue to support, without reservation, our long standing position in favor of the present state policy of open admissions to our regents institutions. We have not seen any evidence of hardship or failure which we believe would result from a continuation of that policy which allows any Kansas high school graduate to continue their education at any tax supported Kansas institution of higher education.

We object particularly to the approach suggested in SB 265, which would leave the development of selective admissions criteria to

the Kansas Board of Regents. We believe that this is such an important matter of state public policy that if admissions criteria are to be developed, they should be developed by this legislative body and placed in statute. Our preference, obviously, is to continue of present policy of open admissions for graduates of accredited Kansas high schools.

We thank you once again for the opportunity to present our views and I would be happy to attempt to answer any questions you may have about our position.



Craig Grant Testimony Before The
Senate Education Committee
Tuesday, February 28, 1989

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am Craig Grant and I represent Kansas-NEA. I appreciate this opportunity to visit with the committee about SB 265.

It appears that SB 265 is an innocuous bill only involving one line of actual substance. However, that one line eliminates a very long standing and popular public policy and leave admissions requirements entirely up to the Board of Regents. The policies of Kansas-NEA support the present policies of in-state graduates having open access to our regent's schools.

The taxpayers of Kansas have come to accept this long tradition of our high school graduates being able to "try" our university system. Many students wait until late in their education to decide on a vocation or profession to pursue. Many also change directions and attitudes about the importance of college sometime along the way. Kansas-NEA hopes the state would not close the door to any of these students.

SB 265 would allow the Board of Regents to establish any type of admissions standards they wished. They could establish two or three "elite" entry systems, require an extremely high GPA for certain students, or basically do what they wanted. Kansas-NEA believes that the Legislature should give direction to this policy and that direction should favor the "open" admissions rather than the "qualified" admissions concept.

We hear about the number of "remedial" courses and the number who do not make it in college and do not re-enroll. We are sure that some leave because of the lack of proper background in high schools; others leave for a variety of other reasons. Some certainly benefit from one or two years in college.

Kansas-NEA supports the current systems of admissions to our regent schools and believes the public has not received sound educational rationale to change its support. Therefore, we do not support SB 265. Thank you for listening to the concerns of our teachers.

Education
3/1/89
Attachment 2



Senate Bill 265

REPEALING OPEN ADMISSIONS TO THE
STATE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Testimony presented before the Senate Education Committee

by

Brilla Highfill Scott, Associate Executive Director
United School Administrators of Kansas

February 28, 1989

Mister Chairman and Members of the Senate Education Committee:

United School Administrators of Kansas is opposed to Senate Bill 265. We believe a graduate of Kansas high schools has earned the right to enter a state university. In a recent survey of our membership, 79 percent of the administrators favored the open admissions policy at the state universities. We would ask that the State of Kansas not abandon its historic policy of granting open admissions to Kansas Board of Regents institutions.

Our association is concerned that the repeal of K.S.A. 72-116 is an attempt on the part of the Regent institutions to control secondary school curricula in Kansas. Curricular decisions rightfully belong with the teachers, administrators, and patrons of the local district.

Undoubtedly there are individuals present in this room who would not be willing to display their high school transcripts; yet, they were able to find success at the university level and in their chosen careers. We do not expect our universities to guarantee success--we do believe a student should have the right to try.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.



**KANSAS COUNCIL ON
VOCATIONAL
EDUCATION**

717 KANSAS AVE • TOPEKA, KANSAS 66603-3811
913-296-2451

Eddie Estes, Ph.D., Chair
President, Western Kansas
Manufacturers Association
Dodge City

Dr. David L. DePue
Executive Director

Robert Thiry, Vice Chair
Coordinator, Kansas
Carpentry Apprenticeship
Perry

M E M O R A N D U M

Linda Reinhardt
Executive Committee Member
Chair, Kansas Farm Bureau Women
Erie

TO: Senate Education Committee Members

FROM: David DePue, Executive Director
Kansas Council on Vocational Education

DATE: March 1, 1989

RE: Testimony on SB 265 -- Ending Open Admissions

Woody Ahn, Ed.D.
Div. Chair, Technical Education
Pratt Community College
Pratt

Frances Graham
Vocational Counselor
Johnson County AVTS
Olathe Center
Olathe

Constituents represented by the State Council include:

Janis Lee
Farmer/Rancher
Private Sector State JTCC
Kensington

1. handicapped individuals (physical and academic),
2. economically disadvantaged,
3. adults who are in need of training and retraining,
4. single parents or homemakers,
5. individuals seeking nontraditional careers, and
6. incarcerated individuals.

Robert Moody
Administrator, Plumbers
& Steamfitters Union
Manhattan

Jerrilee Mosier, Ed.D.
Div. Director, Instructional
Support Services
Butler County Community College
El Dorado

Discrimination

Edwin Koehler
Director, Twin Lakes
Educational Cooperative
Clay Center

Restrictive admission programs would discriminate against four of these six constituencies. In essence, the current college bound high school student would not be affected. There are two groups to be concerned about. The first is the young person who did not decide to get into the college track by the end of the 8th grade (about 13 years old). The second group is those young people who get placed in the college track but do not enter the university or who do and drop out. They have little entry level skill to offer an employer and have a delayed start at career exploration and preparation.

D. Joe Mildreter
Dean of Community Services
Colby Community College
Colby

Dick Rogenmoser
Senior Vice President
Martin Tractor Company
Topeka

Special groups (i.e. minorities, late bloomers, athletes, etc.) can be accommodated, however, present law does not discriminate against any group. All persons are accommodated.

Gary Withrow
Employee Involvement Coordinator
Eaton Hydraulics Division
Hutchinson

Andrea Welborn
Coordinator, Turning Point-ALRC
University of Kansas
Lawrence

Education
3/1/89
Attachment 4

Senate Education Committee
March 1, 1989
Page Two

North Carolina has an extensive community-technical college system with institutions on 65 sites in a state with a smaller geographic area than Kansas. This design creates a selectivity for university admission as well as a higher competition rate. After all, how much credit can an institution and faculty take when a scholar succeeds? Many teachers would like to rid their class of medium to low achieving students, but these are also our children, too.

Statistics on noncompleters make a useful illustration, but each person (statistic) has its own story. While the data shows that most drop outs (and pushouts) were attributed to poor grades, this does not explain the reason for failure. I spent over 12 years teaching at four major universities, including one with open admissions (Ohio State) and one with very restrictive criteria (the University of Illinois - Champaign-Urbana). As academic officer of my program at Illinois, I processed student exit (and requests for readmission) forms and resulting hearings.

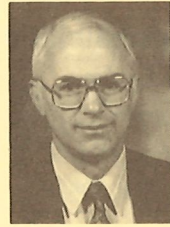
Poor academic performance was usually caused by social, personal, or financial problems. Increased admissions requirements will not affect these problem areas.

MEMBERSHIP



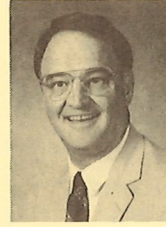
Dr. Eddie Estes, KCOVE Chair

President, Western Kansas Manufacturers Association, Dodge City, Representative of State Job Training Coordinating Council.



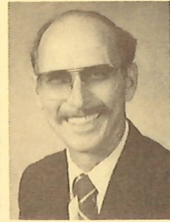
Edwin G. Koehler

Director of Special Education, Twin Lakes Educational Cooperative, Clay Center. Representative of Special Education.



Dick Rogenmoser

Senior Vice President, Martin Tractor Company, Topeka. Representative of Business.



Robert Thiry, KCOVE Vice-Chair

Coordinator, Kansas Carpentry Apprenticeship, Perry. Representative of Labor.



Janis Lee, State Senator, 36th District

Farm/Ranch Owner, Kensington. Representative of Small Business Concerns. State Senator, 36th District



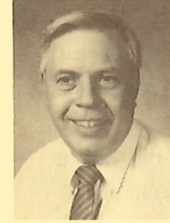
Andrea Welborn

Coordinator, Turning Point-ALRC, University of Kansas, Lawrence. Representative of Special Education and Career Development Needs of Special Populations, Including Women.



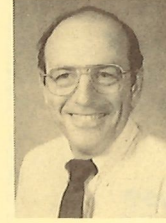
Linda Reinhardt, KCOVE Executive Committee Member

Farm Bureau Director, Erie. Representative of Agriculture.



D. Joe Mildrexler

Dean of Community Services, Colby Community College, Colby. Representative of the Private Industry Council under JTPA.



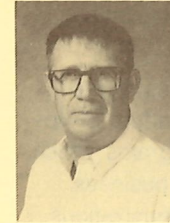
Gary Withrow

Employee Involvement Coordinator. Eaton Hydraulics Division, Hutchinson. Representative of Industry.



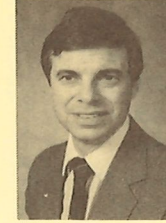
Dr. Woddy Ahn

Division Chair, Technical Education, Pratt Community College, Pratt. Representative of Limited English Proficiency and Minorities.



Robert Moody

Administrator, Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 609, Manhattan. Representative of Labor.



Dr. David DePue

Executive Director, Staff



Frances Graham

Vocational Counselor, Johnson County AVTS, Olathe. Representative of Career Guidance and Counseling.



Dr. Jerrilee Mosier

Vice President of Academic Affairs, Allen County Community College, Iola. Representative of Disadvantaged and Handicapped.



Mary Workman

Executive Secretary, Staff

1989 Schedule of Meetings

February 14-15—Topeka

State Board of Education
State Department of Education
Kansas Legislature

April 25-26—Dodge City/Garden City

Dodge City Community College
Garden City 3i Show
Garden City Community College

June 28-30—Parsons/Tulsa, OK

Labette Community College
VICA U.S. Skill Olympics (Tulsa)
NE AVTS—Pryor, OK
Rogers State Community College—
Claremore, OK

August 14-15—Wichita

State Vocational Convention (Public Forum)

What is a State Council on Vocational Education?

The Carl D. Perkins Vocational Education Act requires that each state establish a State Council on Vocational Education, broadly representative of citizens and groups having an interest in vocational education.

The Council, which is appointed by the State Board of Education, consists of 13 persons. Seven represent the private sector (two of these are from labor) and six represent secondary and postsecondary institutions, including career guidance and counseling organizations, special populations and special education. The Council chairperson is elected annually by the group and must be a representative of the private sector. Terms for Kansas Council members are three years.

What is the Purpose of the State Council?

The purpose of the Council is to analyze and evaluate vocational education programs and services, including those which are assisted by the Job Training Partnership Act, and to report to and advise the Governor, State Board of Education, Department of Education, business community, and general public as to how well the state's needs for vocational education are being met. The Kansas Council is funded entirely by an appropriation from the U.S. Congress.

What are the Responsibilities of the State Council?

The Perkins Act requires the State Council to—

- advise the State Board on the development of the State Plan for vocational education.
- advise the State Board and make reports to the Governor, business community and general public concerning
 - policies the state should pursue to strengthen vocational education.
 - initiatives and methods the private sector could undertake to help modernize vocational education.
- analyze and report on the distribution of spending for vocational education.
- analyze and report on the availability of vocational education.
- consult with the State Board on the establishment of evaluation criteria for vocational education programs.
- submit recommendations to the State Board on the conduct of vocational education programs which emphasize the use of business concerns and labor organizations.
- assess the distribution of financial assistance provided under the Perkins Act, with particular attention to the distribution of funds between secondary and postsecondary institutions.
- recommend procedures to the State Board to ensure and enhance public participation, particularly that of local employers and local labor organizations, providing vocational education at the local level.
- report to the State Board on the extent to which special populations (handicapped persons; disadvantaged persons; adults needing training or retraining; single parents or homemakers; incarcerated persons; and persons in sex equity programs) have equal access to quality vocational education programs.
- advise the Governor, State Board, State Job Training Coordinating Council, U.S. Secretary of Education and U.S. Secretary of Labor concerning
 - evaluation of the vocational education program delivery systems assisted under the Perkins Act and under JTPA; and
 - the adequacy and effectiveness of the coordination between vocational education and JTPA.
- conduct at least one meeting to secure the views of the public on vocational education.
- consult with the State Board on the establishment of technical committees which are to develop model curricula.

Phyllis A. Chase, Ed.D.
Director of Student Services

Topeka Public Schools
Unified School District No. 501

Senate Bill 265

What:

Position Paper
Qualified Admissions Proposal by the Kansas Board of Regents.

Recommended Position:

The Topeka Public Schools unequivocally opposes the qualified admissions proposal in its current form, as well as its formulation process.

Rationale:

Historical Facts:

In 1955, George Baxter Smith, then Dean of the University, completed an ingenuous study of who would be eliminated if a policy of selective admissions were instituted at the University of Kansas. Dean Smith obtained scores on entrance exams for 1,066 of the 1,134 students who graduated from the University in June 1955 and identified those graduates who would not have been admitted if they scored below the 50th percentile, a "cutting score" widely discussed at the time. Two hundred eight students, or roughly one-fifth of the graduating class, would have been eliminated by this criterion. Of these 208 students, 29 were on a dean's scholastic honor roll one semester, while two were for six semesters. A total of 46 were on the honor rolls at least one semester. Perhaps even more striking, Dean Smith discovered that this cutting score would have resulted in a "loss to the state and nation" for "forty teachers, twenty-two engineers, five journalists, seven lawyers, seven doctors, seven pharmacists, and 96 graduates from the college of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the School of Business. Similar results were produced when the study was replicated for 1958 graduates. Dean Smith concluded that because "a free society's survival depends upon the widest and fullest possible development of all its human resources," a policy of selective admissions was the least desirable response to large enrollments. His study was widely read and no doubt played an important part in maintaining support for the open admissions policy.

(Professor Ray Heiner, Assistant Professor of History and Education,
The University of Kansas)

Perceptions:

The Qualified Admissions Proposal as presented by the Kansas Board of Regents is void in an area of profound significance: affective assessment. This area includes assessing the level of motivation, attitude toward attending college, degree of tenacity and level of emotional maturity of aspiring applicants. The rationale for assessing these affective indices is easily discernable. As one seeks to identify the possible variables that mediated Dean Smith's study, it becomes obvious that arbitrary 50th percentile scores did not accurately predict those students who would not be successful, but actually included students who were academically outstanding in their academic pursuit.

Motivation, attitude, tenacity, and emotional maturity are affective variables that impact student achievement at any given point on the educational continuum. Can these indices be accurately measured and serve as valid predictors of college success? Probably to no more of a degree than college entrance exams that by their own admission are not capable of being culturally free and produce scores with more prediction validity of family wealth than academic success.

There is no one predictor of success in college, or in life. A combination of experiences and circumstances, often internal to the student alone, determines that person's success. This is as it should be in a democratic nation. The issues are complex. The ramifications will be felt ubiquitously and with such magnitude as to require our concerted evaluative input in a collaborative fashion as we seek excellence at all levels of education.

Issues:

1. Will the proposed changes enhance or restrict educational opportunity?
2. Do the proposed changes represent a unilateral effort by those in higher education to assert hegemony over secondary education, or do they provide a framework for cooperative decision-making that recognizes the interest and needs of all those involved in Kansas education.
3. In 1987 the Board of Regents termed their proposal as Selective Admissions. This year the term used is Qualified Admissions. Does this change in terminology represent a change in philosophy?