

Approved 3-6-89
Date

MINUTES OF THE Senate COMMITTEE ON Elections

The meeting was called to order by Senator Don Sallee at
Chairperson

1:30 ~~am~~/p.m. on February 28, 1989, 19 in room 529-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

All members were present

Committee staff present:

Myrta Anderson, Research Department
Fred Carman, Revisor of Statutes' Office
Elizabeth Handke, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Representative Bill Reardon
Norman Reynolds, Director of Educational Services
Frank Randel, Secretary Kansas School Boards Association
Onan Burnett, UDS 501

Others attending: see attached list (attachment 1)

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Sallee at 1:36 P.M.

Representative Bill Reardon appeared before the committee in support of H.B. 2056. He stated the purpose of the bill would be to authorize by virtue of statute the hiring of lobbyists for the purpose of lobbying for school districts.

Norman Reynolds, Director of Educational Services for Kansas Association of School Boards appeared in support of H.B. 2056 (attachment 2). He stated the members of the boards of education are elected locally and in an excellent position to determine the wishes of their constituents. From a perspective of fairness, the ability to lobby the Legislature should not be a function of school district size.

Frank Randel, Secretary of Kansas School Boards Association, Schools for Quality Education, appeared as a proponent of H.B. 2056 (attachment 3). He stated that S.Q.E. is a group of small schools in the State of Kansas that can neither individually or collectively hire a staff of full time employees to conduct the business of S.Q.E., however there are times that the interest of these schools, members of S.Q.E., have such common interest that they need to help and support each other. One area of such common concern is the annual multitude of bills in the state legislature that effect schools. Since this group is basically small schools with small staffs, it has been found that we could keep our group informed on issues of common concerns by having a legislative representative, who would keep the leadership of S.Q.E. informed on vital issues.

Onan Burnett, USD 501, appeared before the committee in support of H.B. 2056. Mr. Burnett stated that his district and board does support H.B. 2056 and would like the Senator's to pass the bill out of the committee favorably.

Senator Bond made a motion to recommend the bill favorably. Senator Reilly seconded the motion. The motion carried.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE Senate COMMITTEE ON Elections,
room 529-S, Statehouse, at 1:30 ~~am~~/p.m. on February 28, 1989, 19

Senator Reilly raised a question concerning S.B. 112 in Section 2. He asked for clarification on the word outpost. Ron Thornburgh replied there might be a problem in trying to define voter registration outpost because there could be Constitutional problems in trying to define what a polling place is. He stated the intention was this section is so no one will be setting at a voter registration booth distributing campaign materials. Senator Bond made a motion to change the word outpost to booth in section 6 line 24. Senator Reilly seconded the motion. The motion carried. Senator Reilly moved to recommend S.B. 112 adversely. Senator Johnston seconded the motion. Senator Reilly withdrew his motion. Senator Reilly made a motion to pass S.B. 112 favorably as amended. Senator Kerr seconded the motion. Senator Johnston made a substitute motion to strike section 2 entirely. Senator Reilly seconded the motion. The motion carried. Senator Johnston made a motion to recommend the bill favorable as amended. Senator Reilly seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Ron Thornburgh briefed the Senators on S.B. 247 and said the bill simply says you base the district reorganization of the last primary election of which a state wide office was elected. Senator Reilly made a motion to recommend favorably S.B. 247. Senator Yost seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Senator Sallee mentioned to the committee that a handout was before them from the city attorney of Wichita concerning S.B. 260, (attachment 4) in which they respectfully requested that this county officer bill be amended to delete reference to city candidates.

It was noted that a technical amendment was needed in the title of S.B. 260 which would add the wording "of certain county and city offices" after the word candidates in line 16. Senator Yost made a motion the technical amendment be adopted. Senator Martin seconded the motion. After discussion Senator Yost withdrew his motion and Senator Martin withdrew his second.

The meeting adjourned at 2:20 P.M.

KANSAS
ASSOCIATION



OF
SCHOOL
BOARDS



5401 S. W. 7th Avenue Topeka, Kansas 66606
913-273-3600

Testimony before the Senate Elections Committee

by

**Norman Reynolds, Director of Educational Services
Kansas Association of School Boards**

February 28, 1989

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, we appreciate the opportunity to testify on HB 2056. Even though our association has no official position on this measure, KASB supports HB 2056. Our support is consistent with a long standing policy advocating local control by boards of education. The members of the boards of education are elected locally and in an excellent position to determine the wishes of their constituents. If board members incorrectly assess those wishes, they suffer the same fate at the ballot box as do any elected officials. We support permitting local boards of education to hire lobbyists, if they so desire.

KASB tries to represent the interests of all of its members. Currently, 301 of the 304 school districts are members. At times that representation is not possible because of the diverse interests of the 304 districts. In those instances where a minority of our members wish to make their views known to the Legislature through a lobbyist, we believe they should have the authority to do so.

Elections
February 28, 1989
Attachment 2

As many of you know, Kansas has a large number of small school districts. Generally, the larger the district, the more administrators that are on staff. In a number of the small districts, the superintendent is also a building principal. The point is, small districts do not have the personnel to assign someone to come to Topeka, even for a few days. Also, important legislative issues are rarely resolved in a few days. From a perspective of fairness, the ability to lobby the Legislature should not be a function of size.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, we appreciate your attention and listening to our views. We urge your support of HB 2056.

Elections
2-28-89
2-1

TO: Don Salice, Chairman
 Election Committee
 Senate
 State House
 Topeka, Kansas

FROM: Frank Randel, Secretary
 Kansas School Boards Association
 Schools for Quality Education

SUBJECT: House Bill # 2056

The leadership of the Kansas School Boards Association, School for Quality Education, known as S.Q.E. have directed that it be made known to the Senate Election Committee the position of S.Q.E. on the subject of lobbying and lobbyist.

S.Q.E. is a group of small schools in the State of Kansas that can neither individually or collectively hire a staff of full time employees to conduct the business of S.Q.E., however there are times that the interest of these schools, members of S.Q.E., have such common interest that they need to help and support each other. One area of such common concern is the annual multitude of bills in the state legislature that effect schools.

Since this group is basically small schools with small staffs, it has been found that we could keep our group informed on issues of common concerns by having a legislative representative, who would keep the leadership of S.Q.E. informed on vital issues. In this way school administrators and board members could be kept informed.

Kenneth Rogg, a former school administrator, has been and is the legislative representative for S.Q.E. He is not paid a salary or even an honorarium. S.Q.E. has paid his expenses while he has helped S.Q.E. in conducting its business.

Information of concern about S.Q.E.:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of Member Schools</u>	<u>Dues Per Year</u>	<u>Audited Expenditures on Legislation</u>	<u>Expenditure Per School</u>
1986-87	88	\$150.00	\$7,151.45	\$81.27
1987-88	95	\$150.00	\$8,387.88	\$88.29
1988-89	96	\$150.00	?	?

Gentlemen as you can see this is less per school per year than it cost me to appear here today. It is felt that we need some way of keeping the legislature mindful of the interest of the small school districts in this state.

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We would ask that the question of House Bill #2056 be settled and that Boards of Education be allowed to use their own good judgement in dealing with the legislature and legislators. We ask for the passage of House Bill #2056.



DEPARTMENT OF LAW
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February 24, 1988

Senator Don Sallee, Chairperson
Senate Elections Committee
State Capitol
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Subject: SB 260 -- Campaign
Contributions

Ladies and Gentlemen:

On behalf of the City of Wichita, I would like to provide comments on SB 260. This bill is entitled, and concerns, reporting of campaign contributions to and expenditures by county officers. We have no objection to and make no comment on the substance of the bill as it affects such county officers.

We would like to express concern about the definition of "covered office," however. In Section 1(e) [line 62] is reference to "a candidate for mayor of a city of the first class." We believe this is inappropriate for several reasons.

We feel the whole focus of the bill, including the title and reporting procedures, is for county officers. The inclusion of one city official is out of place and unnecessary.

The City of Wichita already has in place an extensive campaign contribution and reporting system, which we feel is more appropriate for city candidates. The requirements placed on candidates by our City ordinances are substantially different than those in this bill. Our ordinances also covers all city council candidates, not just the mayoral candidates.

The City of Wichita respectfully requests that this county officer bill be amended to delete reference to city candidates.

Very truly yours, Elections
February 28, 1989
Attachment 4
Thomas R. Powell
Thomas R. Powell *by JAL*
City Attorney

TRP:JAL

cc Chris Cherches, City Manager