

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

The meeting was called to order by Representative Rick Bowden at
Chairperson

3:30 ~~XXX~~ a.m./p.m. on February 21, 1991 in room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Rep. Reardon, Hensley, Hackler, Larkin, Lahti, Blumenthal

Committee staff present:

Avis Swartzman, Revisor of Statutes Office
Ben Barrett, Legislative Research
Dale Dennis, State Department of Education
Donna Luttjohann, Secretary to the Committee

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Craig Grant, K-NEA
Mark Tallman, KASB
Brilla Scott, USA

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bowden.

Representative Flottman was asked to preside as chairman. Rep. Flottman opened hearings on HB 2023.

The first conferee, Brilla Scott, Assistant Executive Director, USA was the only proponent of the bill. Ms. Scott said a longer school year is inevitable to meet the objectives of public education and this bill addresses that need. She acknowledged that although it would create a fiscal impact, USA supports this bill. (Attachment 1).

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The second conferee, Craig Grant, K-NEA spoke in opposition of the bill. Mr. Grant expressed that this bill fails to meet the needs of our schools, especially in light of the reforms the state is currently considering (Attachment 2).

Mark Tallman, KASB, commented on HB 2023. KASB has no position on this bill as of yet. However, Mr. Tallman emphasized the fiscal impact occurring at a time when the budget is tight. Additionally, he expressed his concern over this bill as an "input" strategy, rather than an outcome-based strategy. (Attachment 3).

Representative Flottman announced that under the Governor's proposed enhanced revenue budget, the state's share of funding would increase by \$49.026 million if 10 days were added to the school year.

Representative Flottman closed hearings on HB 2023. Chairman Bowden noted that HB 2023 would apply to both public and private schools, applied through the state's compulsory attendance laws.

Chairman Bowden introduced Mr. Bill Wagon, who will serve as an aide/advisor in the Governor's office for education.

Ms. Robin Nichols, Wichita Public Schools, requested that six pieces of legislation be introduced as committee bills.

The first piece of legislation restores to all districts the ability to use up to 4 mills for capital outlay funding. A Motion was made by Rep. Jones and seconded by Rep. Amos to introduce the bill. Motion carried.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION,
room 519-S, Statehouse, at 3:30 XXX a.m./p.m. on February 21, 1991

The second piece of legislation amends the special fuels tax law which currently distinguishes for taxing purposes between school's districts which lease and operate their school buses, from those which own their own buses. Rep. Reinhardt made the motion and Rep. Praeger seconded it that this legislation be introduced. Motion carried.

The third introduction reduces the 2.5 mile transportation limit to 1.5 miles for elementary students. The Motion was made by Rep. Pottorff and seconded by Rep. Jones. Motion carried.

The fourth request was that districts be allowed to transfer funds from their general fund to special education funds by transferring outside the general fund budget lids. Rep. Flottman motioned to introduce the legislation and it was seconded by Rep. White. Motion carried.

The fifth piece of legislation would fund kindergarten programs in the actual Full Time Equivalencies (FTE) provided. A motion by Rep. Wiard was made and Rep. Benlon seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The sixth bill brought before the committee for introduction was a request for funding for pre-kindergarten programs serving at-risk three and four year olds. The motion was made by Rep. Wiard to introduce the bill and Rep. Flottman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Rep. Bowden called attention to the minutes of February 11, 12 and 13. A motion was made by Rep. Jones to approve those minutes and it was seconded by Rep. Benlon. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:06 with the next meeting scheduled for Monday February 25, 1991 at 3:30 p.m. in Room 519-S.



HB 2023

February 21, 1991

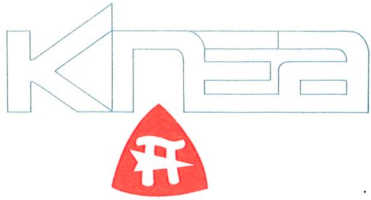
Testimony presented before the House Committee on Education
by Gerald W. Henderson, Executive Director
United School Administrators of Kansas

Mister Chairman and members of the committee. With all of the requirements now being placed on schools and with the growing body of research which indicates that more time is needed to complete the objectives of public education, United School Administrators supports the addition of ten days to the school year.

Our concern is that since staff will expect to be compensated for the added time on the job and that utility companies will expect to be paid for added services, additional funds will be needed. During a session where the relief of property taxes is a prime concern, it is assumed that should this bill pass, funds will follow.

HB2023/gwh

HOUSE EDUCATION
Attachment 1
February 21, 1991



Craig Grant Testimony Before The
House Education Committee
Thursday, February 21, 1991

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am Craig Grant and I represent Kansas-NEA. I appreciate this opportunity to visit with the committee about HB 2023.

Kansas-NEA does not support HB 2023. Our members do not believe that just adding ten days to the school year would accomplish anything positive. What goes on during the 180 days is the more important issue. The cost of making such a policy decision also seems to be prohibitive.

Our state is just embarking on plans which, hopefully, will set outcomes for each of our districts on which we will test to see if they are being met. It would seem to us that once these outcomes are in place, and it is determined that 180 days are too few to accomplish those outcomes, then will be the proper time to discuss lengthening the school year.

We oppose HB 2023 as not meeting the present needs of our schools. Thank you for listening to our concerns.

HOUSE EDUCATION
Attachment 2
February 21, 1991

**KANSAS
ASSOCIATION**



**OF
SCHOOL
BOARDS**

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

**Testimony on H.B. 2023
before the
House Committee on Education**

by

**Mark Tallman
Coordinator of Governmental Relations
Kansas Association of School Boards**

February 21, 1991

Thank you for the opportunity to offer some comments on HB 2023, which would extend the minimum school year by 10 days, or by a proportional number of hours. The KASB delegate assembly has not adopted a position on this issue. However, there are several aspects we would like to bring to the committee's attention.

First, while there is considerable interest in increasing student time in the classroom to increase student learning, adding days to the year is an "input" strategy, rather than an "outcome" strategy. In general, we believe the state should focus its attention on educational outcomes, rather than increased state mandates and regulations.

Second, the ability of school districts to respond to a longer school year depends on their ability to meet the additional costs this proposal would require. When the current resources of the state suggest a freeze or even reduction in school budgets, this step might simply spread limited funds even thinner, rather than lead to improved learning.

Thank you for your consideration.

HOUSE EDUCATION
Attachment 3
February 21, 1991