

Approved: February 24, 1992  
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Rick Bowden at 3:30 p.m. on February 19, 1992 in room Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present:

Avis Swartzman, Revisor of Statutes Office  
Ben Barrett, Legislative Research  
Shirley Wilds, Secretary to the Committee

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Representative Walker Hendrix  
Representative Tom Love  
Mark Tallman, KASB  
Craig Grant, KNEA  
Connie Hubbell, Department of Education

The meeting was called to order by Representative Cindy Empson.

**Action on HB 2693:**

Representative Praeger moved to amend HB 2693 as per attached draft of amendment; seconded by Representative Hackler. Motion carried. (See Attachment #1.)

Representative Benlon moved to send HB 2693 out favorably, as amended and was seconded by Representative Hackler. Motion carried.

**Representative Ruth Hackler** recognized Mr. Bill Trout, Director of Jaguars, Olathe, Kansas, and his work with at-risk youth in his community. Representative Hackler commended Mr. Trout's tireless effort and recognized his success with this program. She also introduced two pages serving in the House today from her district.

The State Board of Education has requested the committee introduce two bills.

Representative Harder moved to introduce the first bill; seconded by Representative Lahti. Motion carried.

Representative Crumbaker moved to introduce the second bill ; second by Representative Jones. Motion carried.

Representative Hackler moved to introduce as a committee bill the Tiered System Transportation Funding Bill; seconded by Representative Reinhardt. Motion carried.

**Hearing on HB 2858:**

**Representative Tom Love.** Representative Love discussed his HB 2858 with the committee. He shared with the committee some facts regarding literacy. He said these facts are a clear indication of what our society has to gain by implementing an early intervention strategy to curb illiteracy. (See Attachment #2.)

**Mark Tallman.** Mr. Tallman said KASB supports the concepts of HB 2858, but suggests that the weighting concept should be considered as apart of the overall school finance plan. He added the need for adequate funding must be clearly understood for the concept to work. (See Attachment #3.)

**Craig Grant.** Mr. Grant, speaking in favor of HB 2858, said KNEA hopes the committee considers weighting of remedial reading students when school finance is discussed. (See Attachment # 4.)

**Hearing on HB 2688:**

## CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, Room 519-S Statehouse, at 3:30 p.m. on February 19, 1992.

**Representative Walker Hendrix.** In discussing his HB 2688, Representative Hendrix said the measure would establish an essential skills program in Kansas, designed to assure that every student receives an adequate education. He said one concept incorporated into the bill is the communication of results of the examination program to every parent, necessitating parent interaction, which is a basic goal of education in the twenty-first century. (See Attachment #5.)

**Mark Tallman.** Mr. Tallman cited three reasons for supporting the concept of this bill: 1) Public accountability; 2) The bill is consistent with the assessment program being implemented by the State Board of Education; and 3) This assessment program is designed to help individual students in improving their skills. Mr. Tallman added that KASB would suggest the committee consider an amendment that would remove the mention of specific grade levels for the assessment. (See Attachment #6.)

**Craig Grant.** Mr. Grant says KNEA does not believe HB 2688 is necessary, stating that if the bill is designed to encourage the State Board to continue its work in development of the math and communications test, then a resolution of encouragement would be sufficient. (See Attachment #7.)

**Connie Hubbell.** Ms. Hubbell offered comments that tests are set this year for grades 4, 7 and 10; communications will be done in grades 3, 7 and 10. She said the Board is currently asking for appropriations for writing, but the writing test is an expensive exam. At some point she said tests in science and social studies may follow.

Representative Wiard moved to introduce a committee bill clarifying the definition of parent or person acting as a parent; seconded by Representative Harder. Motion carried.

The next scheduled meeting is February 20, 3:30 p.m. in Room 519-S.

Upon completion of its business, the meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

# Guest List

House Education Committee 2/19/92

Name	Organization	Address
Laura DeClue	self	Ellen Elder
Mark Tallman	KTSB	Topeka
Glenn Isabella	House Speaker	Statehouse
Jess Baroni	self	TOPEKA
Paul Johnson	PAEK	"
Robin Nichols	USD 259	Wichita
Jim Allen	Pate McGill Assoc	Topeka
Robbie Wright	Campus High School	Haysville
Jacque Dates	SQE	Topeka
Craig Grant	KNEA	Topeka
Kay Coles	KNEA	"
Valera Giarratano	Campus High School - Shadow of Rep. Pottorff.	
Stacie Herbert	Marching Jaguars	Olathe
Amanda Owen	Marching Jaguars	Olathe
<sup>DIR.</sup> BILL TROUT SR.	" THE OLATHE JAGUARS - P.O.	BX-2262 OLATHE <sup>KS, 66061</sup>
Dennis Cox	U.S.D. #500	Topeka
Orion Burnett	USD 501H	TOPEKA
Jim Edwards	KCCT	Topeka
Gerald Henderson	USA of KS	Topeka
Connie + Lucretia	STB of KS	Topeka
Ladislav M. Hencel	Gov Office	Topeka

Proposed Amendment to House Bill No. 2693

On page 1, by striking all of lines 11 through 18; following line 18, by inserting a new section as follows:

"Section 1. (a) As used in this section, the term "school breakfast program" means a food service program under which breakfasts are made available by a board of education on a nonprofit basis to pupils in attendance at school, and for which such board receives assistance from funds appropriated by the congress of the United States; and the term "food service program" has the meaning ascribed thereto in K.S.A. 72-5112, and amendments thereto.

(b) The board of education of each school district may enter into an agreement with the state board of education for the establishment and maintenance of a school breakfast program under which breakfasts are made available to pupils in attendance at school. Such breakfasts may be made available in any one or more school buildings operated or used for pupil attendance purposes by the board of education. The provisions of this subsection shall expire on June 30, 1993.

(c) On or before July 1, 1993, the board of education of each school district shall enter into an agreement with the state board of education for the establishment and maintenance of a school breakfast program under which breakfasts are made available to pupils in attendance at school. Subject to the provisions of subsection (d), such breakfasts shall be made available in each school building operated or used for pupil attendance purposes by the board of education.

(d) The state board of education may waive the requirement that breakfasts be made available in each school building operated or used for pupil attendance purposes, subject to the following:



(1) No waiver shall be granted which releases a board of education from the requirement that breakfasts be made available in a school building in which 30% or more of the pupils in

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attendance at school in such building on March 1 of the preceding school year were pupils who were eligible for free or reduced price meals under the national school lunch act.

(2) A waiver releasing a board of education from the requirement that breakfasts be made available in a school building, other than a school building designated in provision (1), may be granted by the state board of education upon application for such waiver by the board. The application shall include the reason or reasons for which the waiver is being requested. The state board shall evaluate the application for waiver, determine the validity of the reason or reasons for which the waiver is being requested, and grant or deny the application for waiver.

(e) The provisions of subsections (c) and (d) shall expire upon failure of the congress of the United States to reauthorize funding for the school breakfast program."

STATE OF KANSAS  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

#2

TOM LOVE  
REPRESENTATIVE, 38TH DISTRICT  
WYANDOTTE COUNTY  
7037 HASKELL  
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66109



COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS  
MEMBER: PUBLIC HEALTH & WELFARE  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
PENSIONS, INVESTMENTS & BENEFITS  
ELECTIONS

House Bill No. 2858  
House Judiciary Committee  
February 19, 1992

Testimony of Tom Love  
State Representative

Mr. Chairman and members of the Education Committee:

Thank you for allowing me to appear before you today to discuss House Bill 2858 which relates to individually assessing the reading abilities of Kansas elementary school children.

Elementary school is the crucial time to develop a student's reading abilities. Ideally it is everyone's desire to insure that all children have the opportunity to come out of their formative years with the reading skills necessary to see them successfully through their educations. This bill would allow additional funding for elementary students who are reading six months or more below grade level. By assessing the reading needs and abilities of children during this formative period, we can insure their future success in education and life.

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I would like to share a few facts regarding literacy. These facts give a clear indication of what our society has to gain by implementing an early intervention strategy to curb illiteracy.

\*A 1983 Federally funded study listed a 9% illiteracy rate among Kansas adults.

\*An estimated yearly cost of non-productivity, crime and loss of tax revenue related to illiteracy is \$225,000,000,000 United Way.

\*75% of the unemployed are non-readers.

Johnathan Kozol, Illiterate America

\*60% of all prisoners are illiterate.

\*85% of all juvenile offenders are illiterate.

U.S. Department of Education

\*Youngsters whose parents are functionally illiterate are twice as likely as their peers to be functionally illiterate.

National Assessment of Educational Progress



Testimony on H.B. 2858  
before the  
House Committee on Education

by

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

February 19, 1992

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on H.B. 2858, which would provide a school finance weighting factor for students receiving the services of remedial reading programs.

KASB supports the concept of pupil weighting when it can be shown that variations result in higher costs. We also support programs to assist students who are at risk of academic failure. We believe this bill falls within these areas.

However, we suggest that this weighting concept, like other bills with weighting features, should be considered as part of the overall school finance plan. Any weighting factor either requires additional financial resources or shifts resources from one area to another. The need for adequate funding, or the affect of such shifts, must be clearly understood for the concept to work.

Thank you for your consideration.

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#4



KANSAS NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION / 715 W. 10TH STREET / TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612-1686

Craig Grant Testimony Before  
House Education Committee  
Wednesday, February 19, 1992

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am Craig Grant and I represent Kansas-NEA. I appreciate this opportunity to speak in favor of the concepts in HB 2858.

Students in remedial reading classes certainly should take more resources to bring them up to grade level than those who are at or above grade level. HB 2858 recognizes the extra effort and expense of these students who truly are "at risk." A weighting factor above the base should be granted if the district recognizes the problem and does extra things to assist that child.

Kansas-NEA hopes that the committee considers weighting of remedial reading students when school finance is discussed. Remedial reading programs as well as other "at risk" characteristics might very well be a better definition of "at risk" than just those on free and reduced lunches.

We support the concepts in HB 2858 and hope the committee considers this factor when school finance is worked. Thank you for listening to our concerns.

*Education  
Attachment # 4  
2/19/92*

#5



STATE OF KANSAS



WALKER HENDRIX  
REPRESENTATIVE, 10TH DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY  
121 W. 3RD  
P.O. BOX 787  
OTTAWA, KANSAS 66067  
(913) 242-8568



COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS  
MEMBER: ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
LEGISLATIVE, JUDICIAL AND  
CONGRESSIONAL APPORTIONMENT  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
PENSIONS, INVESTMENTS AND BENEFITS

TOPEKA  
HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES

2-19-92

## ESSENTIAL SKILLS ASSESSMENT (H.B. 2688)

H. B 2688 establishes an essential skills program in Kansas. This program is designed to assure that every student is receiving an adequate education which will allow the student to be successful in today's society. Every student will be evaluated to determine if he or she has attained literacy in essential skills. The essential skills to be evaluated are mathematics and communications. Communications include reading and writing performance.

With the results of the essential skills program, educators will be able to identify pupil skills and the mastery of some important subjects. This information may be used to redesign curricula, to develop better instruction and to plan for improvement in student performance.

Many aspects of the program are currently under implementation by the State Board. This legislation would accelerate the process. The Board would develop standards for the mastery of essential skills. It shall require examinations of students in the third, seventh and tenth grades. The examinations may include a variety of assessment techniques, including performance assessments as well as tests.

According to the Division of Budget, there will be a fiscal impact. Testing will be done in all schools, including nonpublic accredited programs. The budget office anticipates an additional expenditure from the State General Fund in the amount of \$125,000.

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Attachment #5  
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One concept which is incorporated in the bill is the communication of the results of the examination program to every parent or, if the student is an adult, to the person in question. This necessitates parent interaction which is a basic goal of education in the twenty-first Century.

I welcome your support. This will assure accountability in the Kansas educational system.

*attach #5-2*

#6  
KANSAS  
ASSOCIATION



OF  
SCHOOL  
BOARDS



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

Testimony on H.B. 2688  
before the  
House Committee on Education

by

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

February 19, 1992

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to speak in support of H.B. 2688, which provides for an essential skills assessment program. We support this concept for three reasons.

First, for public accountability. KASB's school reform program is based on establishing clear educational goals for schools and school districts, with specific performance indicators to measure progress. These indicators should include a statewide assessment of essential skills in communications and mathematics. We believe schools should be held accountable for measurable improvement in student performance - and given the autonomy to determine how best to achieve that improvement.

Second, we believe this bill is consistent with the assessment program being implemented by the State Board of Education. We can support establishing this program in statute, but we do not believe efforts already underway should be undermined.

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Third, this assessment program is designed to help individual students in improving their skills. The goal should be ensuring that every student achieves proficiency in these essential skills.

We would suggest the Committee consider an amendment that would remove the mention of specific grade levels for the assessment. This would provide the State Board with more flexibility in operating the assessment program, without requiring statutory amendments.

Thank you for your consideration.

*Attach #6-2*



#7 D

KANSAS NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION / 715 W. 10TH STREET / TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612-1686

Craig Grant Testimony Before  
House Education Committee  
Wednesday, February 19, 1992

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am Craig Grant and I represent Kansas-NEA. I appreciate this opportunity to make comments on HB 2688.

As I read HB 2688, I was struck with a number of questions. Why do we need this bill? Isn't the State Board of Education doing this? Isn't the math test of essential skills in its second year of implementation? Isn't the communications essential skills test ready for field testing soon? Is this bill wanting another set of tests in addition to our present testing system?

Kansas-NEA does not believe HB 2688 is necessary, especially if it will add another set of tests to take more time away from instruction. If the bill is designed to encourage the State Board to continue its work in development of the math and communications test, then a resolution of encouragement would be sufficient.

Thank you for listening to our concerns.

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Attachment #7  
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