

MINUTES OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Cindy Empson at 1:30 on March 9, 1995 in Room 522-S of the Capitol.

All members were resent except:

Committee staff present: Caroline Rampey, Legislative Research Department
Avis Swartzman, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Helen Abramson, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: David Monical, Washburn University
Merle Hill, Kansas Association of Community Colleges
Stephen Jordan, Kansas Board of Regents
Bill Reed, Kansas Independent Colleges
Bill Musick, Kansas State Board of Education

HB 2553 - Kansas council on the future of postsecondary education.

David Monical, Washburn University spoke in favor of HB 2553 as amended.

Mr. Merle Hill, Executive Director, Kansas Association of Community Colleges (KACC) informed the Committee that the agency and especially the 117 locally-elected trustees and the 19 community colleges presidents has followed with great interest the activities and deliberations of the Joint Advisory Committee on Governance. They believe the Advisory Committee's recommendations for continued collaborating and cooperation between the community colleges and state universities through the activities of both existing and newly-formed consortia are appropriate. KACC looks forward to such arrangements and are interested in expanding them in the interest of both students and institution. KACC believes that HB 2553, as amended should be reported favorably for passage.

Dr. Stephen Jordan, Executive Director, Kansas Board of Regents (KBOR), agrees with the concept behind the initial bill, and the Board of Regents appreciates the confidence the Select Committee showed in the composition of the Council on Postsecondary Education structure that builds upon cooperation between the Board of Regents, the State Board of Education (SBOE), the Legislature and the Governor. It is the KBOR's understanding that the provisions of this bill are not meant in anyway to keep the two Boards and the Joint Governance Committee from proceeding on those items that they had identified in their charter, and that they believe can be implemented on their own, without the need for legislation. The Board of Regents is very supportive of HB 2553, as amended.

Chairman Cindy Empson stated the Committee is not attempting to replace the Joint Advisory Committee on Governance - that would be up to the SBOE and KBOR. Also, it is the intention of the Committee when the Council on Postsecondary Education makes its preliminary report in November 1995, if there are legislative items that could possibly assist in implementing any strategy those could be looked at in the 1996 Session.

Stephan Jordan stated the Joint Governance Committee agrees that both Boards should have a single environmental scan that meets the needs of postsecondary education and the general job market in Kansas. The Joint Governance Committee requested support of \$40,000 from the Govenor for that effort. The Commissioner received a memorandum from Lt. Governor, Sheila Frahm, agreeing to provide the \$40,000. This scan will be used by both the Council and the Advisory Committee.

Bill Musik, SBOE informed the attitude and cooperation is great between the SBOE and KBOR.

Representative Barbara Ballard moved HB 2553, be amended and be reported favorably for passage. The motion was seconded by Representative David Heinemann. Motion carried.

Representative Ralph Tanner moved the Committee minutes of March 7, 1995 be approved. Representative Lisa Benlon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 13, 1995.

