

Approved: B. Lawrence
Date

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Barbara Lawrence at 9:00 a.m. on March 18, 1997 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present: Ben Barrett, Legislative Research Department
Avis Swartzman, Revisor of Statutes
Jackie Breymeyer, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Others attending: See attached list

HB 2031--enacting the education and tax reform act of 1997

Chairperson Lawrence called the meeting to order. She refreshed the Committee's memory by stating what had been heard the previous day on the tax side of the bill. She opened the meeting for discussion.

Senator Bleeker moved to pass HB 2031 out favorably, with the conceptual amendment replacing the educational funding with the Governor's package. Senator Bleeker stated that this would contain the Base State Aid Per Pupil \$12.1 million, Correlation Weight 4th Step Acceleration \$9.8 million, and At Risk Weighting \$4.0 million.

Senator Hensley gave a second to the motion.

One of the Committee clarified that the provisions that were different from the Governor's in the House bill would now be replaced with the Governor's version; entirely the Governor's proposal, both money and substance for the education component of the bill.

The motion carried.

Another member wanted to address the concern of impact aid, specifically Blue Valley-Olathe and the Ft. Riley, Junction City, Geary County issue. He asked about the fiscal note.

The response was the original figure was approximately \$2.4 million; however Ft. Leavenworth had some permanent districts that are funded in different ways. In taking this piece out, the figure is about \$1.2 million; over a million less than originally thought. This is based on 25% of the money generated by military impact aid districts which would go to the districts that generated the dollars.

Senator Emert moved conceptually to insert whatever funds needed to resolve the Olathe-Blue Valley issue.
Senator Langworthy gave a second to the motion.

Senator Hensley made a substitute motion to report HB 2031 favorably for passage as amended.
Senator Lee gave a second to the motion.

Senator Hensley asked to explain his reasons for the motion. He stated that the Senate President had come to him last week and requested the minority party members on the tax committee agree to a policy that the Governor's tax proposal be sent to the floor without any significant amendments or alterations. This policy was agreed to. He thinks the same thing ought to be done with school finance. The Governor's plan is in this motion without any significant amendments. It would be a matter of consistency to deal with the Governor's proposal only. Obviously there will be amendments on the floor, not only as relates to taxes, but also to school finances. Each member of the Senate ought to have the opportunity to present amendments.

Senator Emert responded that there was an understanding as to the tax portion of the bill. Senators Downey and Hensley had come to him with concerns that this bill was not going to come to this Committee. He assured them it was not the plan to keep the Education Committee from working whatever they wanted to work into this bill. It was his presumption that the education portion of the bill would be worked in Committee.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, ROOM 123-S-Statehouse, at 9:00 a.m. on March 18, 1997.

Senator Hensley replied that this was his presumption at one point in time, but he feels things have changed in terms of this issue. He feels everything should be put on the floor of the Senate and all issues debated.

Senator Lee commented that the votes were there in the tax committee to make several decisions. What is being done now is to try to take care of certain entities special interests and ignoring other entities' special interests. Once one entities' special interest is taken care of it is no longer a part of the bargaining process when it comes to taxes and education. If there is going to be a negotiated agreement on the whole package, then there needs to be a negotiation on the whole package and not give concessions to special interest groups.

The question was called for. The Chairperson stated that the substitute motion is to pass **HB 2031** out as amended which is to include the Governor's package, along with the tax package.

The motion failed 6-4.

Senator Emert withdrew his motion, with Senator Langworthy her second.

Senator Emert moved to amend **HB 2031** with the Blue Valley-Olathe amendment and to recommend the bill favorably for passage. Senator Langworthy gave a second to the motion.

Senator Oleen made the substitute motion to amend the impact aid piece regarding Ft. Riley and the military impact aid of seven other school districts - both impact aid issues into **HB 2031**.
The motion died for lack of a second.

The Chairperson stated that the Committee was back on the original motion which was to amend to include the Blue Valley-Olathe piece and to pass the bill out favorably as amended. She called for discussion.

Senator Hensley stated he was going to vote against the motion, stating it ought to be a negotiable item on the floor and subject to full Senate debate. Eventually he will support it in the whole process. The issues should be dealt with up front and on the floor so that everyone is involved in the negotiations process.

With regard to the Blue Valley-Olathe amendment, Senator Emert stated he thought it was a good bargain to the state to spend \$1.2 million to save \$8 million. It is not a regional issue. He would like to see this passed out with the one amendment.

Senator Hensley was asked if the education portion of this bill was the subject of any agreement between the Senate President and himself.

The Senator replied that there was no agreement; the Senate President did not get back to him. Senator Hensley said he thinks the same policy should be followed regarding education as was done in tax. If one particular education piece is going to be singled out, there are certain individuals who are no longer a part of the negotiation process.

A short recess was held as several Committee members had to leave for Page pictures.

The meeting resumed. The Chairman stated the Committee was back on the primary motion.

Senator Oleen made a substitution motion to amend **HB 2031** with the 'baby LOB' or 5% LOB for special education without a protest petition. Senator Downey gave a second to the motion.

Senator Emert stated that the LOB work force is close to coming to a solution, perhaps as early as tomorrow. It is a clone of the baby LOB, plus some help for the districts that already have LOBs.

The Chairperson concurred with the Senator and said there had been a breakthrough on LOBs. It would skew what was in mind if this amendment was added to the bill.

Senator Downey disagreed and said there is no idea of the cost or what the impact would be on every district. This could be a backup. If the work group gets something worked out then this proposal could be removed.

Senator Oleen commented that many hours have been spent addressing this issue, but the 5% is something that will assist districts who do not have, nor cannot get, full authority. It has been a recommendation and should be included in any bill that is brought out of committee.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, ROOM 123-S-Statehouse, at 9:00 a.m. on March 18, 1997.

The motion failed.

Senator Jones made a substitute motion to decrease the transportation mileage of children K through 3 to 2 miles. Senator Downey gave a second to the motion.

The fiscal note was asked for and Senator Jones replied the fiscal note is \$1.9 million.

The motion failed.

Senator Oleen made a substitute motion to include the declining enrollment provision .

Senator Oleen asked Senator Hensley if they had spoken with the Governor about this and he responded in the affirmative, saying that the Governor was supportive of it. The fiscal note is \$6 million.

Senator Oleen stated that this motion would allow planning time for schools that are suffering declining enrollment.

The Chair asked if there was a second to the motion.

Senator Hensley gave a second to the motion.

The motion failed 6-5.

Senator Hensley made a substitute motion to add the interim committee's endorsement of at risk at .75. Senator Jones gave a second to the motion.

The motion failed.

The Chairperson stated that the Committee was back on the primary motion.

The motion carried on a 6-5 vote.

The meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 19, 1997.

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

DATE: March 18, 1997

NAME	REPRESENTING
Jim Allen	KEC KFRC
Jacquie Oakes	SQE
Robin Lehman	Olathe USD 233
Tat Lehman	Olathe USD 233
Mark Tallman	KASIS
HELB Smith	USA
Craig Grant	KWEA
Dorothy Rockefeller	WOWV
Abraham Jones	cit
Doug Bowman	CCECDs
Diane Gjerstad	USD 259
Patrick Hurley	KEC/KFO
Deanne Ault	USA
Kathie Spraker	DOB
Jim Potter	Nichita Eagle
Ann Barnett	USD 501
Jim Horally	USD # 512
Bob Vancouver	USD 229 Blue Valley
Ken Baker	USD 489 Hays