

Approved: 3-10-98
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Mason at 3:30 p.m. on February 23, 1998 in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Barbara Allen (A)
Lisa Benlon (E)
Peggy Long (E)

Committee staff present: Lynne Holt, Legislative Research Department
Renaë Jefferies, Revisor of Statutes
Rose Marie Glatt, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Representative Ballard
Blaine Finch, Mayor pro tem, City of Ottawa
Laurie Rosenwasser, Executive Director, Harvest America Corp.

Others attending: See attached list

Representative Peterson moved that the minutes from the February 18 meeting be approved. Representative Vickrey seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Chairman Mason opening the hearing on **HB 2933** - an act concerning the neighborhood improvement and youth employment act

Representative Ballard (proponent) briefed the committee on **HB2933** (Attachment 1). She explained the bill expands the definition of eligible participation, removes the mandatory Congressional District stipulation, and provides more flexibility for private business participation.

General discussion followed. Technical clarification of the language in the bill was reviewed.

Blaine Finch, Mayor pro tem of the city of Ottawa, spoke in support of **HB 2933** (Attachment 2). The city of Ottawa has participated in the Summer Youth Employment Program since 1993. During those years 164 youths received work experience in private, public or non-profit organizations. They strongly support the program's continuation due to the success rate in Ottawa.

Laurie Rosenwasser, Executive Director of Harvest America Corp., appeared in support of **HB 2933** (Attachment 3). Harvest America Corp. Operates a Youth Employment Act program in Garden City, Goodland, Kansas City and Leoti. She stated that their experience works for youth, communities and for Kansas. Included in her testimony are five evaluations from participants of the program.

Written testimony only: Richard Jackson, Executive Director, CCAP (Attachment 4).
John K. Burke, PH.D (Attachment 5)
Representative Janice L. Pauls (Attachment 6)

Chairman Mason closed the hearing on **HB 2933**.

Lynne Holt clarified the suggested technical amendment. Section one. Starting on line 33 the alternative suggestion inserts a phrase (bold type) to clarify language. The alternative sentence reads: *If the eligible entity is a private business, such entity may provide employment opportunities, **other than for community services and assistance**, that would provide the youth with meaningful and valuable work experience.* This would make sure it is expansion and not referring back to the language on lines 28 through 31.

Representative Sharp moved that **HB 2933** be passed out favorable as amended. Representative Kuethers seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Chairman Mason directed the committee's attention to **HB 2646**.

Lynne Holt clarified the fiscal note. It represents negative revenue coming in because of tax exemptions, in fiscal year 1999, somewhere between 11.3 million to 33.8 million.

Chairman Mason said that he had visited with Larry Cope, from the Jefferson County Economic Development Commission, and he, too, was surprised about the size of the fiscal note because it goes well beyond anything he had planned. Mr. Cope's intent had been to restrict this to the rural areas outside of communities. The large dollar amounts are a result of bringing those larger counties into the program. Chairman Mason encouraged him to continue to work on the bill regardless of the outcome of the hearing.

General discussion followed regarding adjusting the eligible numbers, limiting to rural areas outside the communities and the risks involved.

Representative Henry moved that **HB 2646** be amended on page 2, line 7 to counties of 20,000 or less from counties of 25,000. Representative Kuether seconded the motion. The motion was defeated.

Chairman Mason adjourned the meeting of 4:20 p.m.

No meeting scheduled.

BARBARA W. BALLARD

REPRESENTATIVE, FORTY-FOURTH DISTRICT
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 (913) 841-0063

STATE CAPITOL
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TOPEKA

HOUSE OF
 REPRESENTATIVES

CAUCUS CHAIR

House Economic Development Committee
Testimony on House Bill #2933
 (Formerly HB 2948 and HB 2883 (HB 3091))
 Presented by Representative Barbara W. Ballard
 February 23, 1998

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

APPROPRIATIONS
 LEGISLATIVE EDUCATIONAL PLANNING
 JOINT COMMITTEE ON HEALTH CARE

Thank you, Chairman Mason and members of the Committee.

The Neighborhood Improvement and Youth Employment Act (NIYEA) was enacted by the Legislature in 1994 and 1996.

Students have prepared and renovated public buildings, repaired public housing units, cleaned up parks and playgrounds, weatherized community facilities, learned basic plumbing, electricity, and worked with senior citizens. Students have also been employed at the Police Department, hospitals, United Way, libraries, animal shelters, cemeteries, community colleges, high schools and a city zoo.

HB 2933 would continue to provide community work opportunities for high school students across the state during the summer months and after school. A mentor will be assigned to each eligible youth employed. Students would receive payments for labor and related costs associated with the repair and renovation of essential and/or historic community facilities, working with low-income senior citizens and assisting with community services. I stress essential because meaningful projects will help to build self-esteem in our young people, and create a sense of community pride. It is important that our youth feel they are a vital part of the community if we want them to have pride and ownership in what happens to the community.

Under HB 2933, a local unit of government, nonprofit organization, Native American Indian tribe, or private business would apply to the Secretary of Human Resources for state grants. Several pilot programs around the state that included rural, urban, and middle size communities received grants. Detail information about the grants is presented in the Annual Report about the Neighborhood Improvement and Youth Employment Act. The report, from the Department of Human Resources, was presented to the committee on January 27, 1998.

Partnerships with businesses have been very successful. I would like to recognize the Neodesha Educational Foundation which serves as the employer for the students. The business partners pay \$5,000 per student apprentice to the Foundation and have invested over \$55,000 in the innovative apprenticeship program. The City of Ottawa continues to employ students in an after school and summer project. The City of Ottawa matched state funding in excess of 100%, providing employment opportunities for twice the number of students participating in NIYEA.

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 ATTACHMENT 1

Ballard Testimony for HB 2933

Page 2

February 23, 1998

In reviewing the Annual Report and the recommendations, HB 2933 expands the definition of eligible participation, removes the mandatory Congressional District stipulation, and provides more flexibility for private business participation.

What is the fiscal note? Again, I am requesting \$100,000 for this statewide program.

This bill would continue to provide jobs for low income youths as a pro-active way to fight crime and to keep them in school. It would give students the opportunity to earn money, get work experience, work with a mentor, develop skills and get references for future jobs. HB 2933 would continue to be an investment in our future generation.

Thank you very much for your consideration and I ask you to support HB 2933.



February 20, 1998

Representative William Mason
Chair, Economic Development Committee
State Capitol, Room 446-N
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Chairman Mason and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to you on behalf of the City Commission of the City of Ottawa to express our strong support for HB 2933, which would provide for the Neighborhood Improvement and Youth Employment Act to continue in existence in the future.

In 1993, the City of Ottawa initiated a City-sponsored Summer Youth Employment Program for under privileged youth ages 14 - 17. Over sixty youth participated in the program in 1993 and 1994. In 1995, thirty-five youth worked in the program over the summer. In 1996, the program was only able to employ twenty-eight youth, due to lack of available funding.

This shortage of resources led the city to apply for the Neighborhood Improvement and Youth Employment Act. In 1997, the first funding year, Ottawa received \$23,740 and was able to employ forty-four youth in the summer, fourteen of whom were eventually employed during the course of the entire year.

The program provides the youth an opportunity to have valuable work experience in private, public, or non-profit organizations. The closely supervised environment that is provided leads to a mentoring relationship between the employer and the youth. The NIYEA grant funding has been able to match targeted youth with community based organizations that truly needed assistance and that could not afford program participants in the past.

The City of Ottawa has been fortunate to receive NIYEA funding for the last two years. This program has been a success for the youth Ottawa and the entire community. We support this program so targeted youth in our community and other communities will be given the opportunities this program provides.

Again, I urge your favorable consideration of HB 2933 and your strong support for this most worthwhile program.

Sincerely Yours,

Blaine Finch, Mayor pro tem
City of Ottawa, Kansas

Copy to: Representative Ralph Tanner
Senator Robert Tyson
City Commissioners

House Economic Development
2/23/98
Attachment 2

City of Ottawa, Kansas Youth Employment Program Project Summary

Since 1993 the Ottawa Summer Youth Employment Program has helped meet the needs of the youth in the community. Citizens and community leaders were concerned with lack of constructive opportunities for the teen population in Ottawa. This program was created to provide an opportunity for youth to receive valuable job experience. To qualify for participation in the program youth must be between 14 and 17 years old and meet JTPA income guidelines. The essence of the program is that the City pays for half of the salary and all benefits for youth working in local organizations and businesses. The employer picks up the other half of the salary and provides a mentoring employment experience.

During the Summer of 1996, the City of Ottawa employed thirty-five youth. Grant funds paid for the salaries of six of those thirty-five youth. In 1997, the summer employment program grew to forty-four youth. Of those forty-four, fourteen youth were supported by NIYEA grant funds.

The City of Ottawa Youth Employment Program was expanded in the fall of 1996 from being a summer program to a year round program. This was possible because the City received NIYEA funding. During 1997, the first full year of grant funding, fourteen youth were employed at community based work sites for the entire year.

During 1998, it is anticipated that thirty youth will participate in the summer portion of the program. The number of youth employed in 1998 will drop because of the increased minimum wage requirements and \$8000 less grant funds available to the grantees. This year grant funding will allow ten youth to continue employment year round.

The impact of this program is evident in the youth of Ottawa. This program has taught youth the importance of education, given them a mentoring relationship with a local business person, and jump started their job experience. We have seen youth in the program graduate from high school and become productive members of the community. In some cases these youth are the only members of their families that are employed. This fact alone demonstrates the importance of the work experience provided by this program.

Attached is a letter from Chris Green, a 20-yr-old graduate of the program. Chris participated in the program for two summers. He is currently employed full time at Wal-Mart Distribution.

To whom it may concern,

Hello. My name is Chris Green and I am writing this letter on behalf of the City of Ottawa Summer Youth Program.

As a member of this program for two years, I can say that it has helped me a lot. Not only did I earn money to buy the things I wanted, but I also gained a sense of responsibility and promptness that I would need for use in other jobs and in school. This program also helped me to put my foot in the door to gain the job that I now have with the City. If possible, I would strongly encourage all support and help that may be furnished for this program so that other teenagers can have the opportunity that I have had to work in the Summer Youth Program. This is a great program and I would invite everyone to help out with it and keep it a success.

I thank you for your time and patronage.

Sincerely,
Chris Green



February 23, 1998

Dear Chairman Mason and Members of the Committee:

I am here today on behalf of the City Commission of the City of Ottawa to express our strong support for HB 2933, which would provide for the Neighborhood Improvement and Youth Employment Act to continue in existence in the future.

Since 1993, the Ottawa Summer Youth Employment Program has helped meet the needs of the youth in our community. Citizens and community leaders were concerned with lack of constructive opportunities for the teen population in Ottawa. This program was created to provide an opportunity for youth to receive valuable job experience. To qualify for participation in the program youth must be between 14 and 17 years old and meet JTPA income guidelines. The essence of the program is that the City pays for half of the salary and all benefits for youth working in local organizations and businesses. The employer picks up the other half of the salary and provides a mentoring employment experience.

Over sixty youth participated in the program in 1993 and 1994. In 1995, thirty-five youth worked in the program over the summer. In 1996, the program was only able to employ twenty-eight youth, due to lack of available funding.

This shortage of resources led the city to apply for the Neighborhood Improvement and Youth Employment Act. In 1997, the first funding year, Ottawa received \$23,740 and was able to employ forty-four youth in the summer, fourteen of whom were eventually employed during the course of the entire year.

The City of Ottawa Youth Employment Program was expanded in the fall of 1996 from being a summer program to a year round program. This was possible because the City received NIYEA funding. During 1997, the first full year of grant funding, fourteen youth were employed at community based work sites for the entire year.

During 1998, it is anticipated that thirty youth will participate in the summer portion of the program. The number of youth employed in 1998 will drop because of the increased minimum wage requirements and \$8000 less grant funds available to the grantees. This year grant funding will allow ten youth to continue employment year round.

The program provides the youth an opportunity to have valuable work experience in private, public, or non-profit organizations. The closely-supervised environment that is provided leads to a mentoring relationship between the employer and the youth. The NIYEA grant funding has been able to match targeted youth with community based organizations that truly needed assistance and that could not afford program participants in the past.

The impact of this program is evident in the youth of Ottawa. This program has taught youth the importance of education, given them a mentoring relationship with a local business person, and a jump start with their job experience. We have seen youth in the program graduate from high school and become productive members of the community. In some cases these youth are the only members of their families that are employed. This fact alone demonstrates the importance of the work experience provided by this program.

The City of Ottawa has been fortunate to receive NIYEA funding for the last two years. This program has been a success for the youth Ottawa and the entire community. We support this program so targeted youth in our community and other communities will be given the opportunities this program provides.

Attached to my testimony is a letter from Chris Green, a 20-yr-old graduate of the program. Chris participated in the program for two summers. He is currently employed full time at Wal-Mart Distribution Center.

Again, I urge your favorable consideration of HB 2933 and your strong support for this most worthwhile program. Thank you for your time and the opportunity to speak before you today. I am available for questions.

Attached:
Letter to Chairman
City of Ottawa Youth Employment Program - Program Summary
Letter from Chris Green



CORPORATION ... an equal opportunity employer serving the heart of America

Reverend Donald G. Martin, Chairperson
Laurie A. Rosenwasser, Executive Director

My name is Laurie Rosenwasser. I am the Executive Director of Harvest America Corporation. We presently operate a NIYEA program in Garden City, Goodland, Kansas City, and Leoti. Our experience is that NIYEA works. NIYEA works for youth, it works for communities, and it works for Kansas.

Harvest America works closely with the schools in the four target communities to recruit appropriate at-risk youth, who would benefit from the work, education, and mentoring components of the program, for NIYEA. All the NIYEA youth come from economically disadvantaged families. In many cases their parents have very limited formal education. NIYEA offers these youth exposure to environments and ideas they might never otherwise experience. NIYEA provides these youth the opportunity to awaken their interest in educational activities and careers, which they would otherwise not even know about.

Harvest America staff enrolls youth and links them with a mentor. NIYEA builds bridges between the youth, their parents, the schools, other adults in the community, and the non-profit community service sector. Harvest America's NIYEA program has youth placed at hospitals, community colleges, zoos, libraries, and nonprofit organizations. During the summer, youth perform community service 32 hours each week and participate in education 8 hours a week. During the school year, they work 8 hours and participate in education for 2 hours each week.

In the life skills education component of NIYEA, Harvest America has provided training in anger control, how to apply for a scholarship, first aid/CPR, nutrition and exercise, internet use, HIV prevention, credit management, pregnancy prevention, substance use prevention, and citizenship. Local organizations and individuals have provided this training to the NIYEA youth as an in-kind contribution to the program.

The local school districts have been very supportive of our NIYEA program, and they have already

*HOUSE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
2/23/98
ATTACHMENT 3*

Headquarters:

14th and Metropolitan, Kansas City, Kansas 66103-1084 Phone (913) 342-2121 Fax (913) 342-2861

Area Offices:

118½ Grant Avenue
Garden City, KS 67846-5411
Phone (316) 275-1619
Fax (316) 275-1762

P.O. Box 752
Goodland, KS 67735-0752
Phone (913) 899-3878
Fax (913) 899-6651

14th and Metropolitan
Kansas City, KS 66103-1084
Phone (913) 281-2781
Fax (913) 342-2861

P.O. Box 770
Leoti, KS 67861-0770
Phone (316) 375-2548
Fax (316) 375-2410

asked about the possibility of having additional slots for next year. In addition, the high school in Liberal in Seward County has expressed interest in the program and has asked about the possibility of expanding the program to that community. The partnership between Harvest America and the schools in the implementation of NIYEA has been very positive for the youth involved.

To date, the youth enrolled in Harvest America's NIYEA program have remained in school and out of legal trouble. Some of the best spokespersons for the importance of NIYEA are the youth themselves. These young people are excited about the skills they have learned. I have attached five evaluations of the 1997 NIYEA summer program completed by youth in Harvest America's program for your information.

Harvest America Corporation
Neighborhood Improvement and Youth Employment Act (NIYEA)
Summer Program Evaluation

Date 9-11-97

In your own words please describe the purpose of this program.

To get a on the job work experience.

Describe the activities you were involved in at your job site
emergency assistance helper load + unload truck, stock shelves with food. also fill food orders.

Describe your experience with your site supervisor? He taught me how to deal with the homeless and low income clients

What new skills have you learned through this program? learned to use the switch board

What skills that you already had were improved this summer? how to manage time wisely + be responsible

What skills would you like to learn? more office skills

Did you feel you were busy most of the time? yes

What did you like most about this program? working with the less fortunate

What would you change about the program? not anything.

Harvest America Corporation
Neighborhood Improvement and Youth Employment Act (NIYEA)
Summer Program Evaluation

Date 8/28/97

In your own words please describe the purpose of this program.

The purpose of the program is to help out students who are in risk of dropping out and they enjoy work, and learn new things while making money.

Describe the activities you were involved in at your job site?

I mostly worked in the Resource Center with the computers, adding new books, checking in, and out books, organize the library, making copies, phone calls about things daycare. Helping Dela with what ever was necessary.

Describe your experience with your site supervisor?

I really enjoyed working with Dela, she's very nice and I got along with her very well.

What new skills have you learned through this program?

How to access into the computer.

What skills that you already had were improved this summer?

computer and receptionists skills.

What skills would you like to learn?

I would really like to learn more about computers, new people, and new things that are going on.

Did you feel you were busy most of the time?

yes.

What did you like most about this program?

got to meet new people, new things, I really liked my co-workers, and really liked to be by the kids,

What would you change about the program?

I would like to work more hours during the school year, and with the kids, in the migrant program.

Harvest America Corporation
Neighborhood Improvement and Youth Employment Act (NIYEA)
Summer Program Evaluation

Date _____

In your own words please describe the purpose of this program.

To help students in their grades and teach them responsibility

Describe the activities you were involved in at your job site

Taking patients to their rooms, answering phones, doing reminders, diagnosis, and sometimes translating.

Describe your experience with your site supervisor?

What new skills have you learned through this program?

I learned the windows 95 program and how to E-mail

What skills that you already had were improved this summer?

My typing skills were improved, talking skills

What skills would you like to learn?

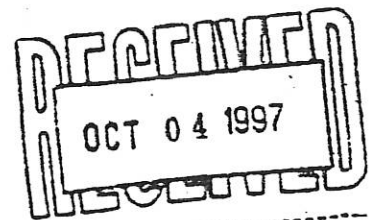
Did you feel you were busy most of the time? yes

What did you like most about this program?

Going out and working

What would you change about the program?

nothing



Harvest America Corporation
Neighborhood Improvement and Youth Employment Act (NIYEA)
Summer Program Evaluation

Date 8-2-97

In your own words please describe the purpose of this program.

The purpose of this program is to help at risk students get and maintain a job while learning valuable work skills and earning extra money.

Describe the activities you were involved in at your job site?

I did various things at work such as filing, receptionary work, and helped with the daycare. I worked where ever they needed help.

Describe your experience with your site supervisor?

I really enjoy working with Lorena because she is very nice, friendly and fun to work with. I couldn't have a better boss!!

What new skills have you learned through this program?

I've learned how to be a good receptionist

What skills that you already had were improved this summer?

~~to be a good receptionist and to be a good worker~~

I improved my people & communication skills.

What skills would you like to learn? I would like to learn more about computer skills and programs.

Did you feel you were busy most of the time? Yes. most of the time they had plenty of work for me to do and kept me pretty busy.

What did you like most about this program?

I really liked my co-workers because they really made me feel welcome and comfortable at work. I also enjoyed working with the children from daycare.

What would you change about the program?

I would really like to work more hours during the school year. I feel we don't get much time to work during the school year.

Harvest America Corporation
Neighborhood Improvement and Youth Employment Act (NIYEA)
Summer Program Evaluation

Date 4-8-97

In your own words please describe the purpose of this program.

It is helping kids to keep them out of trouble and at the same time winning some money.

Describe the activities you were involved in at your job site

Photo copying the booklets, helping building maintenance, ~~fitting~~ Making labels

Describe your experience with your site supervisor?

Working on computers and making lots of other stuff.

What new skills have you learned through this program?

working on computers (faxing) and other stuff.

What skills that you already had were improved this summer?

working on the computers.

What skills would you like to learn?

More computers skills.

Did you feel you were busy most of the time?

Yes.

What did you like most about this program?

That it show me how to do stuff
I needed experience.

What would you change about the program?

Nothing because it is very good the way it is.



ECKAN, Inc.

East Central Kansas Economic Opportunity Corporation
602 Maple • PO Box 100 • Ottawa, Kansas 66067

(785) 242-7450

FAX (785) 242-0305

February 20, 1998

Representative Bill Mason, Chairperson
House Committee on Economic Development
State Capitol, Room 446-N
Topeka, KS 66612

Dear Representative Mason:

As a former city commissioner and mayor of the city of Ottawa, I fully support HB2933. The Neighborhood Improvement and Youth Employment Program has had a positive impact on the youth of our city.

This program has allowed our youth to earn money for some of their basic needs, such as, clothing for school, etc. and some cases, helping their families as much as they can. This program has given the youth something concrete to do with their time, and exposes them to the world of work, where they can learn the importance of being on time, showing up everyday, and taking pride in the work that they do. These skills will benefit them later in life.

As a result of this program, our youth have become better students and good role models for their peers. They have developed self-confidence and self-esteem. The greatest investment we can make in the future of our state is in our youth.

Sincerely,

Richard Jackson
Executive Director, CCAP

RJ/ss

cc: Representative Barbara Ballard

House Economic Development
• 2/23/98
ATTACHMENT 4

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
JOHN K. BURKE, PH.D.
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
NEODESHA U.S.D. 461
FEBRUARY 23, 1998

Chairman Mason and Members of the Committee:

Neodesha U.S.D. 461 received a Neighborhood Improvement Youth Employability Act Grant for the 1994-95 year term. The grant actually ran from September 1994 through October 1995. The focus of the program was to develop work skills and work ethic in youth apprentices working in our school system. The program was a complete success and led to the establishment of an innovative apprenticeship program in the Neodesha community.

Initially, two apprentices were employed who met the financial criteria as set by the act. The two students were assigned to work after school with a custodian who would serve as the student's mentor. As apprentices, the students would learn valuable work skills by observing and working along side the mentor. The mentors also modeled a positive work ethic for the apprentices. As the year progressed, the contact at K.D.H.R. indicated that additional funds would be available and we could expand the program for one more apprentice. Another apprentice was found and he was able to work with one of the custodians before school started in the morning.

The mentors were extremely pleased with the work of the apprentices. They reported that the apprentices learned new work skills and demonstrated a positive work ethic. Two of the apprentices were male and the other was female. Both male apprentices graduated with the class of 1995. The female apprentice will graduate with the class of 1996 and she was able to continue her apprenticeship through the summer and into the fall. In addition, the female apprentice is also an apprentice in the new apprenticeship program.

The N.I.Y.E.A. grant enabled us to begin a state funded apprenticeship program for more than a year for students working before and after school with our custodians. Our new apprenticeship program which grew out of this experience, provides students with the opportunity to work at area

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businesses for three hours during the school year and eight hours per day during 40 days in the summer. The apprentices are paid at least minimum wage, earn four units of high school elective credit and learn valuable work skills. The businesses are able to work with the Neodesha Educational Foundation which serves as the employer for the students. The business partners pay \$5,531 per apprentice to the Neodesha Educational Foundation. For this, the business partner receives credit for a tax deductible contribution, the services of an eager apprentice, a better prepared work force, and an opportunity to reinvest in the community. The foundation pays the cost of the workers' compensation for the apprentices, liability insurance for the members of the board of directors, and the salary of an apprenticeship coordinator. The apprentices are required to keep a journal of their apprenticeship experiences must participate in Socratic seminars with the superintendent, the high school principal, and the apprenticeship coordinator.

This program provides a mutually beneficial way for students to earn as they learn, for employers to receive tax benefits while underwriting the costs of a program, and for the school to utilize the expertise of area business personnel. The Neighborhood Improvement Youth Employability Act was a significant catalyst in the formation of our current program. The benefits of this program are quite wonderful. The businesses receive the opportunity to invest in the community and create a more qualified work force. The schools don't have to purchase expensive, one of a kind equipment. The students receive credit, experience, and pay. In short, everyone wins.

As the two year period for this law comes to an end, I strongly urge you to make this act permanent. In an employment era that students view as unfriendly and irrelevant, this legislation provides an opportunity for the youth of today and tomorrow to join the work force. The leverage this bill provides for students will pay huge dividends in the future for them and for society.

5-2



TOPEKA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Testimony Before the
House Economic Development Committee
Regarding
House Bill 2933
by
Representative Janice L. Pauls
District 102
February 23, 1998

JANICE L. PAULS
REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 102
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STATE CAPITOL—272-W
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(913) 296-7657
HUTCHINSON ADDRESS:
1634 N. BAKER
HUTCHINSON, KANSAS 67501-5621
(316) 663-8961

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
RANKING MINORITY MEMBER:
BUSINESS, COMMERCE AND LABOR
JOINT SENATE & HOUSE COMMITTEE
ON ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND
REGULATIONS
MEMBER:
JUDICIARY
TRANSPORTATION
WORKERS COMPENSATION FUND
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on this bill to your committee. Four years ago in 1994 the legislature passed HB 2948, the Neighborhood Improvement and Youth Employment Act. The program was then extended by the passage of HB 3091.

NIYEA began with five programs. While one program was not as successful as the rest, the remaining projects did provide jobs and skill training for at least 57 high school students. The program has continued to grow, with four programs given grants in 1996 and four additional programs receiving grants in 1997.

The programs involve youth working in projects to repair community facilities, senior centers and schools and to rehabilitate houses to house low-income or homeless individuals.

I would strongly urge your continued support for this worthwhile program.

*House Economic Development
2/23/98
Attachment 6*