

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Representative Ralph Tanner at 9:00 a.m. on February 22, 2000 in Room 313-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: A quorum was present

Committee staff present: Avis Swartzman, Revisor of Statutes  
Ben Barrett, Legislative Research Department  
Carolyn Rampey, Legislative Research Department  
Renaë Jefferies, Revisor of Statutes  
Linda Taylor, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Representative Kent Glasscock  
Craig Grant, KNEA  
Diane Gjerstaad, Wichita Public Schools  
Representative Deena Horst  
John Federico  
Kathleen Lowman  
Larry Patrick

Others attending: See Attached List

Hearings on **HB 2797 - School personnel, certification, state board of education authorized to receive information** and **HB 2799 - Kansas mentor teacher program** were opened.

Representative Kent Glasscock appeared before the committee as a proponent of **HB 2797** and **HB 2799**. (Attachment 1) He stated that he believes both of these bills work to achieve a single goal—bolstering teacher quality. He also stated that these two bills take steps to better teaching in Kansas classrooms.

Craig Grant appeared before the committee to present comments on **HB 2799**. He stated that while the KNEA agrees with the concept of the bill, the problem they see is that it takes a one-size-fits-all approach to a program that has to meet the needs of different local school districts.

Diane Gjerstaad appeared before the committee as a proponent of **HB 2799**. (Attachment 2) She stated that mentoring is fundamental in the professional development of a first year teacher. She urged the committee to pass this bill favorably.

Hearings on **HB 2797** and **HB 2799** were closed.

Hearings on **HB 2810 - School districts, definition of juvenile facility, grants of state moneys** were opened.

Representative Deena Horst appeared before the committee as a proponent of **HB 2810**. (Attachment 3) She stated that, although the existing facilities are already funded through legislative grants, a new facility in Atchison will be opening in March; they will need to access the grant at the April counting period for those students who will be arriving in that program, thus the need for legislation to take effect after publication in the Kansas Register. She also presented to the committee written testimony provided by Larry Patrick, Assistant Director of the Smoky Hill Education Service Center, and Kathleen Lowman, Director of Special Services for the Atchison Schools (Attachments 4 and 5)

Diane Gjerstaad addressed the committee on **HB 2810**, requesting that they delete the reference on page 6, line 10 to “Charter Wichita Behavior Health System” because this facility has recently filed for bankruptcy. (Attachment 2)

Hearings on **HB 2810** were closed.

Hearings on **HB 2847 - School safety and security, pupil information reporting requirements** were opened.

Representative Horst appeared before the committee to explain the bill and the history behind the change she is proposing to the School Safety and Security Act. (Attachment 6) She stated that she has developed some language that will address both her concerns that employees be informed and the concerns of the KASB that Superintendents be given some discretion in cases where the student is not a safety risk or if the student is a safety risk an emphasis be made on the fact that the Superintendent may continue to report to employees that student's previous behavior. She urged passage of the bill.

Diane Gjerstaad appeared before the committee as an opponent of the bill. She stated that this is an unrealistic layer of data collection, and it should be kept in mind that these are children, not adults.

Hearings on **HB 2847** were closed.

Representative Crow moved to amend **HB 2810** on page 4, striking from line 11 to the reference to the Salvation Army, removing the two closed facilities. The motion was seconded by Representative Lloyd. The motion passed.

Representative Benlon moved to pass **HB 2810** as amended. Representative Horst seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 23, 2000 at 7:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50.

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION  
GUEST LIST**

**DATE: February 22, 9:00 a.m.**

NAME	REPRESENTING
JANIS Mc MILLEN	LEAGUE of WOMEN VOTERS of KANSAS
Larry Patrick	Smoky Hill Education Service Center
Kathleen Lowman	USD 409 Atchison Schools
Paula Ellis	Children & Family Policy - SRS
Don Ross	Kaw Valley USD 321
Stacy Farmer	KASB
Diane Gjerstad	USD 259
Craig Grant	HWRA
Nhu Benguet	KSDF

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**Testimony**  
**On House Bills 2799 and 2797**  
**Submitted by**  
**House Majority Leader Kent Glasscock**  
**To the House Education Committee**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Madam Vice Chair, for the opportunity to appear before you again in support of two Glasscock-Tanner bills focused on teacher performance. In the interest of time, Mr. Chairman, I have combined my testimony on HB 2797 and HB 2799. Both of these bills works to achieve a single goal – bolstering teacher quality.

As you heard last week, Chairman Tanner and I believe the research shows that teacher quality is one of the most important factors in the quality of a child's education. I will not recap the research for you again, but suffice it to say steps to strengthen the quality of teaching in Kansas will pay real dividends in the future success of our children.

HB 2799 creates a mentor teacher program to provide every first-time teacher with a seasoned mentor beginning in the 2000-2001 school year. The research shows on-site mentors give first-year teachers grounding in professional practices, and help increase retention of new teachers. We feel that in order to make a mentoring program work, we need to provide incentives for the best teachers to participate. The bill calls for the mentor to receive a \$1000 stipend for each teacher with whom they work. Mentors must have been employed for three years with the district, and meet criteria set by the state board of education.

The fiscal note on this bill is \$1.1 million in FY 2001. This accounts for stipends to cover mentoring for the 1,000 new teachers which the department of education estimates will enter the teaching profession yearly in Kansas. In addition, \$100,000 is required to develop the standards for mentoring, and to train seasoned professionals to act as mentors. This includes funding for one FTE.

HB 2797 also addresses teacher quality. It requires the Kansas Bureau of Investigation to provide background checks on teachers who apply for new or renewed certificates. Current law prohibits the state board of education from issuing a teaching certificate to persons convicted of certain criminal offenses. However, the state board largely relies upon county attorneys, members of the profession, and news reports to keep teachers with criminal records out of the classroom. In fiscal year 1999, the state board felt that it was important to check the backgrounds of all the teachers in the Kansas system. They spent \$135,000 to perform one-time KBI background checks. Unfortunately, there has been no mechanism – due to funding – to continue with these checks as new teachers come into the system, and as current teachers renew their licenses.

It's imperative that we insure teachers with criminal backgrounds stay out of Kansas classrooms. Asking the KBI to absorb a \$78,750 cost is a small request in comparison to the damaging costs of having a criminal teaching Kansas children.

In closing, Mr. Chairman, these two bills take steps to better teaching in Kansas classrooms. Anything we can do as a legislature on this front promises great rewards for the children of our state.

House Education  
2-22-00  
Attachment 1



**House Education Committee  
A potpourri of bills**

**Representative Ralph Tanner, chairman**

February 21, 2000

*Submitted by: Diane Gjerstad  
Wichita Public Schools*

**H.B. 2799 Mentor teacher program**

The district rises in support of the mentor teacher program and the funding attached to adequately implement the plan. Mentoring is fundamental in the professional development of a first year teacher. A strong mentoring program can increase job satisfaction, reduce stress, expand classroom strategies and ultimately infuses the joy of teaching from mentor to the new teacher. A win win situation.

**H. B. 2810 Defination of juvenile detention facilities**

The bill adds several juvenile detention facilities to the list.

I would ask the committee to delete the reference on page 6, line 10 to "Charter Wichita Behavior Health System". This facility has recently filed for bankruptcy.

Ten level six beds are in the current Charter facility. We would anticipate that the Juvenile Justice Authority would place the students in a new facility in the community. Yet the district would not be eligible for weighted funding until the statute is amended.

As an option to the annual amendment of this statute, the committee may wish to consider granting authority to the State Board of Education to authorize juvenile detention facilities.

**H.B. 2847 Safe school act amendments**

I rise in opposition to this bill.

This act was amended last session, has a problem been identified? Ultimately it seems ironic when the juvenile justice code treats these juveniles as juveniles, yet this bill would have our schools treating juveniles as adults.

This is an unrealistic layer of data collection. But the greatest concern is the stigma placed on the kid. These are kids not adults. Lets keep that in mind.

*House Education  
2-22-00  
Attachment 2*

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TOPEKA

HOUSE OF  
 REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

VICE CHAIRMAN KANSAS 2000

EDUCATION

GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION AND ELECTIONS

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

TESTIMONY OF HB 2810  
 PRESENTED TO THE  
 HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 22, 2000

Again, thank you for allowing me to visit with you regarding proposed changes to current statutes.

Over the past few years, the legislature has provided grants for detention centers who are educating students who are being held in a lock-down situation. Those grants are being provided through additional counting periods because they're usually not at capacity until after the normal counting period for the school district. These students often require special education services and may require the hiring of additional educational staff to properly serve the students. [The reporting dates are September 20, November 20, and April 20.]

The existing facilities are as follows: St. Francis Academy at Ellsworth (32 beds), St. Francis Academy at Salina (26 beds) and St. Francis Center at Salina (30 beds). It is expected that there will be no more funds needed this year for these three facilities.

A new facility, St. Francis Academy at Atchison (56 beds) will be opening in March. They will need to access the grant at the April counting period for the students who will be arriving in that program, thus the need for the legislation to take effect after publication in the Kansas Register.

Additional written information has been provided by Larry Patrick, Assistant Executive Director, Smoky Hill Educational Service Center. The service center is representing St Francis Academy in this request.

Thank you for your consideration of HB 2810. I would appreciate your support of this needed piece of legislation.

House Education  
 2-22-00  
 Attachment 3

House Education Committee  
2/22/00 - 9:00 am  
Smoky Hill Education Service Center, Salina KS  
Larry Patrick, Assistant Director

Smoky Hill Education Service Center requests on behalf of three school districts (USD #409 Atchison, USD #327 Ellsworth, USD #305 Salina) that K.S.A. 72-8187, subsection (f), item (2) be amended to include the four programs of The Saint Francis Academy, Inc. These programs are listed by name on the next page along with a profile of the youth residing at these facilities.

Two of the facilities listed in K.S.A. 72-8187 have closed or are being closed (the Parkview Residential Treatment Center of Topeka, and Charter Wichita Behavior Health System, L.L.C.). With the closing of these two facilities, the addition of the Level 6 program in Atchison and the increased needs of the youth populations being served by The Saint Francis, Inc. programs, it is impossible for the local districts to provide the education services with the current state financial aid. It is therefore necessary to count these students as two pupils under the district finance and quality performance act, with count dates on September 20, on November 20, or on April 20 of a school year.

The new Level 6 program for women in Atchison begins in March 2000. It is necessary for this program to be approved so funding may begin with the first count day April 20, 2000. The local school district was unaware this program was going to be licensed until January of 2000.

### Average Cost to Educate St. Francis Youth on Campus for Local School Districts

These costs are based on actual budgeted items in programs currently in existence and the costs projected by moving to a performance-based classroom setting. The academic services are a combination of on-line computer-based academic skill learning and off-line performance activities and projects. A key component to this program is that it is not time based, but strictly performance-based. A student may proceed at his/her own pace and motivation.

The software being used is designed for self-paced learning. It is both diagnostic and prescriptive in reading and math. The level of difficulty is middle school through adult education, with diagnostic and prescriptive abilities to grade 2. It has been used successfully in a variety of settings and has enjoyed particular success in the Texas prison system. The program is research based and meets all the state and local curricular requirements.

Smoky Hill Education Service Center in Salina began providing education services for the two Salina programs approximately three years ago. With the St. Francis placements coming at various times during the semester, it was frustrating for the student, school, and St. Francis staff to fit students into a time-based custodial system. Since Smoky Hill started the programs at St. Francis, each youth has earned from 5 - 10 credits each semester during their stay at St. Francis. This is based on their performance, not their length of stay.

The curriculum is very intense and student centered. Each student's time-on-task is greatly increased over regular classroom instruction. In a regular classroom, a high rate of engagement may be in the 15 - 20 minute range for an individual student per hour. In this classroom setting, the rate of engagement is closer to 50 minutes per hour because of the reduced distractions. The student stays focused on his/her particular needs. **The educational services are provided year round. This is not a nine month program.**

**\$6,946/student estimate at St. Francis Academy @ Atchison**

**\$8,992/ student estimate at St. Francis Academy @ Ellsworth**

**\$8,895/student estimate at St. Francis Academy @ Salina**

**\$7,107/student estimate at St. Francis Center @ Salina**

Total Project Expense Estimates = \$1,121,225/144 students = \$7786/student

Total Project Revenue Estimates = \$1,258,930/144 students = \$8743/student  
(This includes federal Title I dollars for Neglected and Delinquent Children)

Total State Revenue = \$1,085,760/144 students = \$7540/student

House Education  
2-22-00  
Attachment 4

**Kansas Residential Locations and Descriptions:**

St. Francis Academy @ Ellsworth Ellsworth, KS 67439	(32 bed residential treatment for males 12-18)
St. Francis Academy @ Salina Salina, KS 67401	(26 bed residential treatment for males 12-18)
St. Francis Center @ Salina Salina, KS 67401	(30 bed residential treatment for males 12-18)
St. Francis Academy @ Atchison Atchison, KS	(28 bed residential treatment for coed runaways 12-18) (28 bed residential treatment for females 12-18)

Total Beds served by The Saint Francis Academy, Incorporated = 144 in residential treatment

All campuses have a minimum of two classrooms, one for SPED students and one for regular education students. A more inclusive model is planned for next fall with SPED and regular education teachers and paraprofessionals working side-by-side with all youth in treatment. The Ellsworth campus has a third classroom for those youth in the Emergency Shelter Program. Saint Francis @ Atchison is beginning a new program for women only in March 2000. This program will also have the two classroom minimum. **The education programming is year round, 11 - 12 months.**

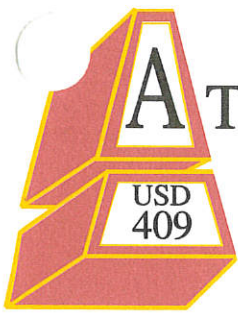
Youth who enter a St. Francis campus usually have a profile of mental illness and/or chronic behavior disorders requiring a staff secure facility with nursing. These facilities have psychiatric coverage, psychiatric nurse coverage, a master level psychotherapist providing treatment services, a seclusion room, and an on campus education program. When a youth's mental illness/chronic behavior problem is stable, the youth is moved to a lower level of care for the rest of his/her treatment. The youth are placed in the St. Francis facilities by SRS, JJA, and other organizations responsible for the mental health treatment of youth. All campuses are closed, staff secure facilities.

**The youth being served at all four locations exhibit the behaviors listed below:**

- 12 - 18 years old
- Full Scale IQ of 70 or above
- No evidence that physical health status would hinder or prevent program participation
- Not in need of emergency psychiatric care
- Impulsivity resulting in dangerous or self-injurious behavior (suicidal impulses have been stabilized so youth is not currently at risk for suicide)
- Run away behavior, which represents a self-destructive disregard for one's safety
- Over-aggressiveness toward others or animals (verbal and physical)
- Sex offender (has sexually offended or is at risk for offending)
- Chronic oppositional-defiant responses that interfere with family functioning, educational services, and/or outpatient treatment
- Chronic explosiveness or uncontrolled temper tantrums (no ability to manage internal stress)
- Destruction of property
- Drug usage/abuse
- Ritualistic abuse behaviors
- Illegal behaviors
- Inability to interact with others
- Chronic problems in school functioning
- Disturbance in psychological functioning requiring a mental illness diagnosis
- Borderline psychotic youth



	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	<b>Saint Francis Programs</b>		<b>SFA @ Atchison</b>		<b>SFA @ Ellsworth</b>		<b>SFA @ Salina</b>		<b>SFC @ Salina</b>
2		56 students		32 students		26 students		30 students	
3	<b>Income</b>								
4	435 - State Projects (2.0 FTE)	56	\$422240.00	32	\$241280.00	26	\$196040.00	30	\$226200.00
5	436 - Title I Funds		Estimate \$65800		\$41370.00		\$30643.00		\$35357.00
6	<b>Total Income</b>		<b>\$488040.00</b>		<b>\$282650.00</b>		<b>\$226683.00</b>		<b>\$261557.00</b>
7									
8	<b>Expense</b>								
9	500-17 Classified Salaries	5	\$94000.00	3	\$53000.00	3	\$53000.00	2	\$35300.00
10	500-18 Certified Salaries	4	\$150000.00	4	\$145000.00	3	\$108750.00	3	\$108750.00
11	500-19 Substitute Salary		\$6000.00		\$3000.00		\$2000.00		\$2000.00
12	<b>500 - Total Salaries</b>		<b>\$250000.00</b>		<b>\$201000.00</b>		<b>\$163750.00</b>		<b>\$146050.00</b>
13									
14	505-10 Social Security Tax		\$24400.00		\$19800.00		\$16175.00		\$14400.00
15	505-11 Workman's Comp. Ins.		\$3600.00		\$1800.00		\$1500.00		\$1500.00
16	505-12 Unemployment Ins.		\$1200.00		\$600.00		\$500.00		\$500.00
17	<b>505 - Total Payroll Expenses</b>		<b>\$29200.00</b>		<b>\$22200.00</b>		<b>\$18175.00</b>		<b>\$16400.00</b>
18									
19	510-10 Travel		\$4000.00		\$1000.00		\$1000.00		\$1000.00
20	510-11 Training		\$4000.00		\$2000.00		\$1500.00		\$1500.00
21	510-12 Administrative Other		\$25000.00		\$12500.00		\$7500.00		\$7500.00
22	<b>510 - Total Personnel Expenses</b>		<b>\$33000.00</b>		<b>\$15500.00</b>		<b>\$10000.00</b>		<b>\$10000.00</b>
23									
24	515-10 Supplies		\$2000.00		\$1000.00		\$1000.00		\$1000.00
25	515-11 Publications		\$200.00		\$200.00		\$200.00		\$200.00
26	515-12 Postage		\$1200.00		\$600.00		\$500.00		\$500.00
27	515-13 Copier		\$6000.00		\$4000.00		\$3000.00		\$3000.00
28	515-14 Telephone		\$1800.00		\$1200.00		\$1000.00		\$1000.00
29	515-15 Curriculum		\$1500.00		\$1500.00		\$1500.00		\$1500.00
30	515-16 Internet		\$6000.00		\$4800.00		\$4800.00		\$4800.00
31	515-17 Other Office Expense		\$500.00		\$500.00		\$500.00		\$500.00
32	<b>515 - Total Office Expense</b>		<b>\$19200.00</b>		<b>\$13800.00</b>		<b>\$12500.00</b>		<b>\$12500.00</b>
33									
34	<b>520 Technology Consultants</b>		<b>\$15000.00</b>		<b>\$8500.00</b>		<b>\$5000.00</b>		<b>\$5000.00</b>
35									
36	525-10 Rent		\$6000.00		\$3000.00		\$2000.00		\$2000.00
37	525-11 Utilities		\$3600.00		\$1500.00		\$1500.00		\$1500.00
38	525-12 Insurance		\$1000.00		\$750.00		\$750.00		\$750.00
39	<b>525 - Total Occupancy Costs</b>		<b>\$10600.00</b>		<b>\$5250.00</b>		<b>\$4250.00</b>		<b>\$4250.00</b>
40									
41	535-10 Repairs		\$3000.00		\$2000.00		\$1500.00		\$1500.00
42	535-11 Equipment Purchases		\$15500.00		\$10500.00		\$7500.00		\$8500.00
43	535-12 Software Purchases		\$9000.00		\$6000.00		\$5600.00		\$6000.00
44	<b>535 - Total Equipment</b>		<b>\$27500.00</b>		<b>\$18500.00</b>		<b>\$14600.00</b>		<b>\$16000.00</b>
45									
46	540-10 Auditor		\$500.00		\$500.00		\$500.00		\$500.00
47	540-11 Legal		\$1000.00		\$1000.00		\$1000.00		\$1000.00
48	<b>540 - Total Legal &amp; Accounting</b>		<b>\$1500.00</b>		<b>\$1500.00</b>		<b>\$1500.00</b>		<b>\$1500.00</b>
49									
50	590-14 Technical Services Expense		\$2000.00		\$1000.00		\$1000.00		\$1000.00
51	590-15 Other Misc. Expense		\$1000.00		\$500.00		\$500.00		\$500.00
52	<b>590 - Total Misc. Expenses</b>		<b>\$3000.00</b>		<b>\$1500.00</b>		<b>\$1500.00</b>		<b>\$1500.00</b>
53									
54	<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>\$389000.00</b>		<b>\$287750.00</b>		<b>\$231275.00</b>		<b>\$213200.00</b>
55									
56									
57	<b>Estimate Return to State</b>		<b>\$33240.00</b>		<b>-\$5100.00</b>		<b>-\$4592.00</b>		<b>\$13000.00</b>
58			\$99040.00						\$48357.00
59									



# ATCHISON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Phone (913) 367-4384 Fax (913) 367-2246

Stephen Pummel, Superintendent  
Joy Kromer, Assistant Superintendent  
Kathleen Lowman, Director of Special Services

## House Education Committee House Bill 2810 February 22, 2000

To All House Education Committee Members:

U.S.D. # 409, Atchison Public Schools is requesting that you consider amending House Bill No. 2810 to include the St. Francis Academy at Atchison as a community juvenile detention center for the purpose of funding educational services.

As you know, Kansas Statute allows for the funding of educational services for certain facilities serving confined students who are unable to attend public schools due to their placement by SRS in a secure or closed facility. All of these students are considered neglected or delinquent and are placed in the Atchison facility from other counties around the state of Kansas. It is imperative that state funding be obtained for the cost of their education rather than local general fund dollars.

Recent changes have taken place with the providers approved last year. As of this month, Charter Wichita Behavior Health System and Parkview Passages Residential Treatment Center of Topeka are no longer providing services; and, St. Francis Academy at Atchison has been approved by SRS for 56 students. Students will be placed in the facility during the first week of March, 2000. Because of this, please consider making this amendment effective for the count that will occur on April 20, 2000.

The students who will be detained in this facility are placed there by SRS and are unable to attend public school. These students are to be housed, maintained, and receiving educational services at the St. Francis Academy at Atchison. Some of the reasons they are in a confined facility include:

- Run away behavior which represents a self-destructive disregard for one's safety
- Sex offender
- Illegal behaviors
- Chronic oppositional-defiant behavior
- Destruction of property
- Drug usage/abuse
- Ritualistic abuse behaviors
- Impulsivity resulting in dangerous or self-injurious behavior
- Over-aggressiveness toward others or animals
- Borderline psychotic youth
- Disturbance in psychological functioning requiring a mental illness diagnosis

Thank you for your support in amending House Bill 2810 to include the St. Francis Academy at Atchison as a detention facility and approve the funding of educational services, effective for the April 20, 2000 count.

Sincerely,

*Kathleen A. Lowman*

Kathleen A. Lowman, Director of Special Services

House Education  
2-22-00  
Attachment 5

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TOPEKA

HOUSE OF  
 REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

VICE CHAIRMAN KANSAS 2000

EDUCATION

GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION AND ELECTIONS

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

TESTIMONY ON HB 2847  
 PRESENTED TO THE  
 HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

February 22, 2000

Thank you for allowing me a few moments to explain HB 2847 and the history behind the change I am proposing to the School Safety and Security Act.

Last year in the process of working out differences in the bill that dealt with special education, the Senators amended language that would allow the possibility that employees would not be informed that a student who had returned from the required year long expulsion had brought a weapon into the school. Despite my voiced concerns we didn't send the bill back to conference committee to remove that amendment.

The House didn't have a chance to discuss in any committee the wisdom of passing such a piece of legislation, therefore; I'm asking you to reconsider it at this time. In light of the events at schools across the country, I believe we owe it to the students and staff at our Kansas schools to ensure their safety to the best of our ability.

I have spoken with Pat Baker, a Kansas Association of School Boards attorney. To save the committee some time, I have developed some compromise language that I believe will address both my concerns that employees be informed and the concerns of KASB that Superintendents be given some discretion in cases where the student is not a safety risk or if the student is a safety risk an emphasis be made on the fact that the Superintendent may continue to report to employees that student's previous behavior.

I urge you to pass favorably this legislation with the proposed amendment. Again, thank you for your consideration!

Deena

House Education  
 2-22-00  
 Attachment 6