

Approved: 4/17/00
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Representative Ralph Tanner at 9:00 a.m. on March 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: Dr. Kim Wilcox, Kansas Board of Regents

Others attending: See Attached List

Hearings on **SB 380 - Kansas ethnic minority scholarship program, definition of institution, award amounts** were opened.

Carolyn Rampey, Legislative Research Department, presented to the committee an explanation of the bill. She stated that the bill applies to Blacks, Hispanics, Asian and Pacific Islanders, Native Americans, and Alaskan Natives; it also includes vocational schools and technical colleges.

Dr. Kim Wilcox appeared before the committee as a proponent of **SB 380**. (Attachment 1) He stated that the Ethnic Minority Scholarship Program was established by the 1989 Legislature to encourage higher education. The purpose is to keep minority students in Kansas. The Board of Regents endorses the proposed changes to expand access to the program and to provide for more flexibility.

Hearings on **SB 380** were closed.

Representative O'Connor moved to pass SB 380 out favorably. Representative Empson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Representative Helgerson moved to amend HB 3013 - Kansas board of regents legacy tuition program to delay the implementation date one year. Representative Empson seconded the motion. Representative Ballou moved to table the motion. Representative Light seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Representative Ballou moved to amend HB 2794 - State board of education, mastery of basic skills program into SB 657 - Post secondary education, powers and duties of state board of regents, membership of midwestern higher education commission and pass out favorably. The motion was withdrawn.

Representative Tanner moved to amend HB 2794 - State board of education, mastery of basic skills program into SB 433 - School districts, suspension or expulsion of students from school. Representative Morrison seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Representative Storm moved to amend HB 2894 - Crimes; concerning unlawful sexual relations with teachers into SB 433. Representative Ballou seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Representative Benlon moved to amend SB 344 - School district finance, definition of enrollment in lines 3, 29, and 42 by dropping the correlation weighting from 1725 to 1700, and also to make technical changes with respect to the dates. Representative Kline seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

GUEST LIST

DATE: March 22, 2000

NAME	REPRESENTING
Kim Wilcox	KBOR
Cindy Bontrager	KBOR
Arlene Nutson	"
Janice McNeill	League of Women Voters of Kansas
Jim Allen	KEC = KFHC
Herchel Pace	Cit.
John Koepke	KASB
Craig Grant	KWEA
Bill Kaye	Cit.
Val DeJever	St. Bd of Ed.
Bill Brady	Schools for Few Funding
Brilla Scott	USA
Kerth Williams	USA
Diane Gjerstad	Wichita Public Schools
Mary Kay Culp	Ks. Catholic Conference
Jacquie Dakes	SQE
Gary George	Olathe Dist. Schools
Sue Petersen	K-STATE
Sue Lento	WCU



KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS

700 SW HARRISON • SUITE 1410 • TOPEKA, KS 66603-3760

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION - 785-296-3421
STUDENT FINANCIAL AID - 785-296-3517
GED TESTING SERVICES - 785-296-3191
FAX - 785-296-0983
www.kansasregents.org

KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS

TESTIMONY to HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE on SENATE BILL 380

By

Dr. Kim A. Wilcox, Executive Director
Kansas Board of Regents
March 22, 2000

The Ethnic Minority Scholarship Program was established by the 1989 Legislature to encourage continuous college enrollment immediately following high school graduation. The scholarship is academically competitive, need-based and provides up to \$1,500 for each of four years of full-time college enrollment. During the 1998-99 academic year, a total of \$364,452 was awarded to 267 students from a pool of 565 initially eligible applicants.

A minority student is defined as an American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian or Pacific Islander, African-American or Hispanic person. To qualify for scholarship consideration, a student must meet a combination of the following five criteria: (1) complete the Regents Recommended Curriculum and have a 3.0 cumulative high school GPA; (2) receive an ACT Composite of 21 or greater; (3) rank in the top one-third of his/her high school class; (4) be recognized by the National Merit Corporation or Hispanic Scholar designation by the College Board; and (5) receive an SAT score of 816 or greater. From this pool, recipients are selected for funding.

Senate Bill 380 incorporates three changes to the program which were recommended by the Legislative Educational Planning Committee during the 1999 interim:

- Expand the list of eligible institutions in which a recipient may enroll to include area vocational technical schools and technical colleges.
- Change the criteria for determining an applicant's financial need to be consistent with the federal methodology for need analysis.
- Change the maximum award from \$1,500 to 75 percent of the average amount of tuition and required fees for full-time, in-state students at the state educational institutions.

In FY 1990, initial funding for the program was \$150,000 to fund 100 scholarships. For FY 2001, the Governor recommended \$360,000 to fund 240 scholarships at \$1,500 each. The

House Education
3-22-00
Attachment 1

proposed new maximum of 75 percent of average state university tuition and fees is projected to be about \$1,900 in FY 2001. The impact of this change would be to require an increase in funding of \$96,000 or a reduction in the number of maximum awards to about 190.

The stated purpose of the program is to respond to concerns over the loss of ethnic minority students to other states and barriers to enrollment in postsecondary institutions by ethnic minority students. While we cannot assess the impact of this relatively small program, national comparison data shows that from 1991 to 1995, Kansas experienced a higher increase in college enrollment of Asian and Hispanic students and a comparable increase for American Indian and African-American students. Data from the state universities show that from the program's inception to fall 1998, total ethnic minority enrollment increased by 27 percent.

The Kansas Board of Regents endorses the proposed changes to expand access to the program and to provide flexibility for the program by allowing the maximum award to increase as costs increase, thus benefiting students. The amendments to index the maximum award and provide for use of the federal need analysis methodology were also recommended by LEPC for the State Scholarship Program. Such consistency among the programs will facilitate their administration at the state and institutional level, which again will be beneficial to students.