

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMERCE COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Karin Brownlee at 8:30 A.M. on February 15, 2005 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Roger Reitz- excused  
Jean Shodorf- absent  
Susan Wagle- excused

Committee staff present:

Susan Kannarr, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Kathie Sparks, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Helen Pedigo, Revisor of Statutes  
Jackie Lunn, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Dr. Don Norwood  
Jerry Magliano

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairperson Brownlee opened the meeting by introducing Kathie Sparks from Legislative Research to explain **SB 138** and **SB 139**. Ms. Sparks explained **SB 138** by stating the bill would establish a new tax credit against Kansas corporate income tax liability for any business that enters into a partnership agreement with the local board of education and the business employees the teacher during the months school is not session. (Attachment 1)

Ms. Sparks explained **SB 139** by stating the bill would create the Kansas Academy of Mathematics and Science which would provide an accelerated residential program for Kansas high school-age pupils who are academically talented in science and math. The two-year curriculum would include course work in math through calculus II, chemistry, biology, physics, computer science, English, history and political science, and would be at a Kansas Regents institution designated by the Board of Regents. (Attachment 2)

Upon conclusion of Ms. Sparks explanations there was discussion by the committee to change the wording to math or science instead of math and science. There was also discussion regarding the fiscal note for **SB 139**.

Chairperson Brownlee opened the hearing on **SB 139** by recognizing Senator Jordan. Senator Jordan commented on **SB 138** and **139**. He stated there was written testimony supporting **SB 138** from Marlee Carpenter, Vice President of Government Affairs for KCCI (Attachment 3). He stated there is a desperate need in our education system today of math and science teachers with degrees in those areas in our classrooms. Senator Jordan explained the origination of the bill. He stated was first decided to do this program with a Federal grant but the resources for a federal grant went by the wayside. Then the idea was to use tax credits as an alternative way to do this program. Senator Jordan said Wichita had a very informal program somewhere along these lines in place and it was called BEST. The people working with this program have stated it had been a positive program which has absolutely energized their programs of math and science. Senator Jordan urged the committee to support **SB 138** and in closing, stated **SB 138** and **SB 139** are very important to the state of Kansas.

There was discussion by the Committee about the restrictions on the type of work the math and science teacher could do. Senator Jordan stated the intent of the bill was to get a job in their related field. There was some concern teachers do all types of work in the summer. The consensus of the Committee was the bill should be amended to designate the math and science teacher would do work in their field for the employer to qualify for the grant. Senator Barone moved for a conceptional amendment on Page 2 Line 8 to add after teacher "in a business that utilizes higher skills related to math and science during the time in which school is not regularly in session". Senator Jordan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The discussion turned to the accountability included in the bill to make sure the programs was being tracked.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE Senate Commerce Committee at 8:30 A.M. on February 15, 2005 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

The Committee discussed the fact that the Department of Revenue tracts tax incentives. The Committee asked staff to double check if the bill needed something added on accountability. The discussion continued on quality control and work accountability and how the program in Wichita works. The Committee is still concerned the bill is too broad on the work accountability. Senator Barone stated that accountably had been addressed because the agreement had to be with the school board. The committee agreed with the school board's approval the problem of work accountability was solved. Motion to move out as amended was made by Senator Barone. Senator Wysong asked for more time to read the bill. Senator Barone withdrew his motion. The decision was to take action on this bill at a later date.

Chairperson Brownlee opened the hearing on **SB 139** by introducing Dr. Don Norwood to give his testimony. Dr. Norwood presented written copy of his presentation "Proposal For A Kansas Academy For Math and Science (KAMS) (Attachment 4) Dr. Norwood gave a review of his background and experience and the research and work he had done in regards to developing this program. In closing Dr. Norwood stated the Senate has a momentous opportunity to greatly advance science and math education for outstanding high school students and in so doing, further enhance the goals of the Bioscience Authority. Dr. Norwood introduced Mr. Jerry Magliano.

Mr. Magliano also gave a review of his background. Mr. Magliano and Dr. Norwood believe the time is right to consider their proposal to create a Kansas Academy for Math and Science, especially because of it's synergy with the establishment of the Kansas Bioscience Authority. Mr. Magliano listed the benefits of having a Kansas Academy for Math and Science (KAMS) (Attachment 4) He outlined how the program would work referring the committee to his written copy. In closing, Mr. Magliano urged the Committee to review all the attachments with his written copy and vote in support of **SB 139** stating passage will encourage similar leaders to emerge in the State of Kansas.

Upon completion of Mr. Magliano and Dr. Norwood's testimonies the Committee had discussion on several concerns. Senator Brownlee asked if there would be non-residential programs available closer to the students home to accommodate students who are active in sports and qualify for the academy. Mr. Magliano stated in larger counties such as Johnson County a residential program could be available. The question was asked if other states with this program offered residential and non residential. The response was it would be possible in a large county but in smaller counties it would not work. The discussion continued with the funding being the topic. The funding would pass through the Board of Regents from state funds. Some discussion on how the Academy works in Missouri. The Committee believes the Board of Regents and the Board of Education need to work together to develop this program. Applications would be based on geographic areas. There was also concern voiced by the Committee regarding a payback program after investing in these students. The Committee feels if this bill passes all the details need to be worked out by Department of Education and Board of Regents.

Chairperson recognized Dr. Reggie Robinson. Dr, Robinson stated this is a terrific idea if the resources are made available to do this the right way. He thinks the Board of Regents and the Department of Education working on this program makes a lot of sense. Dr. Robinson indicated he had some concerns about the willingness of people to move away and spend two years academically in an academy located out of their community. He suggested some changes in language.

Upon completion of Dr. Robinson's statement, Chairperson Brownlee closed the hearing on **SB 138**.

Meeting adjourned at 9:33 a.m. with the next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 16, 2005 at 8:30 a.m. in room 123S.