

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Clay Aurand at 9:00 a.m. on March 17, 2009, in Room 711 of the Docking State Office Building.

All members were present except
Representative Valdenia Winn, excused
Representative Bob Brookens, excused
Representative Bill Otto, excused

Committee staff present:
Sharon Wenger, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Theresa Kiernan, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Janet Henning, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:
John Torline, Central Kansas Community Foundation
Tom Krebs, Governmental Relations specialist, Kansas Association of School Boards
Dr. John Morton, Superintendent, Newton Public Schools USD #373 (written testimony)
Becky Goss, Chairperson Kansas Association of Community Foundations (written testimony)
Val DeFever, Schools for Quality Education (written testimony)

Chairman Aurand told Committee members for the purpose of chairing the House Education Committee on March 17, 2009, he would appoint Representative Don Hill as the Chairperson.

SB 175 - School districts; transfer of moneys to community foundations.

John Torline, Central Kansas Community Foundation, spoke to Committee members as a proponent of **SB 175**. Mr. Torline told Committee members the bill would allow local school districts the option of placing restricted funds with community foundations, provided the intent of the original donors continues to be honored. (Attachment 1 and 2)

Tom Krebs, Governmental Relations specialist, Kansas Association of School Boards, spoke to Committee members as a proponent of **SB 175**. Mr. Krebs told Committee members the bill would provide another way for local schools to cooperate with other community organizations in a mutually beneficial manner. (Attachment 3)

Dr. John Morton, Superintendent, Newton Public Schools USD #373, provided written testimony in support of **SB 175**. (Attachment 4)

Becky Goss, Chairperson Kansas Association of Community Foundations, provided written testimony in support of **SB 175**. (Attachment 5)

There were no opponents listed for **SB 175**.

A question and answer session followed the presentation.

Acting Chairperson Hill closed the hearing on **SB 175**.

Acting Chairperson Hill asked Committee members for discussion on **SB 175**.

Representative Crow moved that SB 175 be passed out favorably for passage and because the bill is of a non-controversial nature, requested SB 175 be placed on the Consent Calendar. The motion was seconded by Representative Roth. The motion carried.

SB 41 - School districts; repeal of archaic statutes relating to transfers of funds and property; disorganized districts.

Acting Chairperson Hill asked Committee members for discussion on **SB 41**.

Representative Aurand gave an explanation of the balloon amendment for **SB 41**.

Written testimony was received from Val DeFever, Schools for Quality Education, in support of

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the amendment for **SB 41**. (Attachment 6)

Representative Aurand moved to amend SB 41 by adding the language of the balloon amendment. The motion was seconded by Representative Spalding. The motion carried. Representative Phelps requested his "yes" vote be recorded.

Representative Aurand moved that SB 41 be passed out favorably for passage as amended. The motion was seconded by Representative Neufeld. The motion carried. Representative Crow requested her "yes" vote be recorded. It was the concensus of the Committee members present to also have their "yes" vote recorded. Representative Aurand will carry the bill on the House floor.

HCR 5015 - Dyslexia and other reading problems; the state board of education to take certain actions.

Chairman Aurand told Committee members that he would determine how best to get **HCR 5015** acted upon by the House so that it could move to the Senate in a timely manner.

Chairman Aurand announced to Committee members this would be the last House Education meeting for this session and thanked the staff members as well as Committee members for their time and work.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 a.m. It is anticipated there will not be any further meetings of the House Education Committee for this legislative session.