

MINUTES OF THE SENATE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Stephen Morris at 10:30 a.m. on January 28, 2004, in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Alan Conroy, Director, Kansas Legislative Research Department
J. G. Scott, Chief Fiscal Analyst, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Amy Deckard, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Susan Kannarr, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Carolyn Rampey, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Norman Furse, Revisor of Statutes
Art Griggs, Revisor of Statutes Office
Judy Bromich, Administrative Analyst
Mary Shaw, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Duane Goossen, Director, Division of the Budget

Others attending:

See Attached List.

Senator Helgerson moved, with a second by Senator Schodorf, to approve the minutes of the January 13, January 14 and January 15, 2004, meetings. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Chairman Morris opened the public hearing on:

SB 323--Changing the date of the joint estimates of revenue to the state general fund from April 4 to April 20

Staff briefed the committee on the bill.

Chairman Morris welcomed Duane Goossen, Director, Division of the Budget, who testified in support of **SB 323**. (No written testimony was submitted.). Director Goossen explained that by moving the date of the joint estimates of revenue to the State General Fund from April 4 to April 20 it would provide better income tax data for the Director of the Budget and Kansas Legislative Research Department for the current fiscal year and the ensuing fiscal year.

There being no further conferees to come before the committee, the Chairman closed the public hearing on **SB 323**.

Senator Helgerson moved, with a second by Senator Schodorf, to recommend **SB 323** favorable for passage. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

Chairman Morris welcomed Carolyn Rampey, Fiscal Analyst, Kansas Legislative Research Department, Principal Analyst, who presented a briefing on Shawnee County Judge Terry Bullock's memorandum decision and preliminary interim order on school district funding (Attachment 1). Ms. Rampey explained that two lawsuits currently challenge the present system in Kansas for funding elementary and secondary education.

Ms. Rampey presented a summary of school finance litigation and gave background information regarding the State Court Case Summary (*Montoy, et. al. v. State of Kansas, et.al.*) and the Federal Court Case Summary (*Robinson, et.al. v. State of Kansas, et.al.*). She explained activities related to *Montoy*. Ms. Rampey also addressed prior challenges to school finance acts and listed observations. Ms. Rampey detailed information regarding the Memorandum Decision and Preliminary Interim Order, status of the order and observations in her testimony.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE at 10:30 a.m. on January 28, 2004, in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

Committee questions and discussion followed. The committee discussed whether the Legislature itself might need its own counsel or representation regarding Judge Terry Bullock's memorandum decision and preliminary interim order on school district funding. The Chairman mentioned that a committee discussion may take place at a future meeting regarding school district funding.

The Committee discussed removing the pay plan raise of 3 percent from the Governor's budget in order to deal with it systemwide rather than during the subcommittee process. Senator Buntzen moved, with a second by Senator Kerr, to remove the pay plan raise of 3 percent out of the Governor's budget and address it systemwide. Motion carried on a voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for January 29, 2004.