

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tom Sloan at 3:30 P.M. on February 2, 2005 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Valdenia Winn- excused

Committee staff present:

Mary Galligan, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Deb Hollon, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Art Griggs, Office of the Revisor

Linda Reed, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Pat Colloton - Representative 28<sup>th</sup> District

Dr. Andy Tompkins - Commissioner

Kansas State Department of Education

Bill Reardon -Kansas City, Kansas U.S.D. 500

Diane Lindeman - Director of Student Financial Assistance

Kansas Board of Regents

Steven B. Case, Ph.D.

Representative Flora for Sean Gatewood

Mary D. Prewitt - General Counsel, Kansas Board of Regents

Bob Masters - Vice President for Academic Affairs, Kansas

Board of Regents

Dr. Blake Flanders - Director of Career and Technical

Education, Kansas Board of Regents

Others attending:

See attached list.

The Chairman directed the Committee's attention to the minutes of January 12, 2005 meeting.

Representative Johnson provided written testimony supporting oral testimony given to the Committee, January 26, 2005, regarding **HB 2072, Authorizing tuition and fee waivers for certain military personnel and dependents.** (Attachment 1)

The Chairman opened the hearing on **HB 2055: Mathematics and science teacher service scholarship program.**

Letters from Emporia State University - Tes Mehring, Dean (Attachment 2) and J. Phillip Bennett, Associate Dean (Attachment 3) were sent to the Higher Education Committee as written notification in support of **HB 2055.**

Letters in support of **HB 2055** received from Kansas State University - Michael C. Holen, Skeen Professor and Dean of Education (Attachment 4) and The University of Kansas - Dr. Fred Rodriguez, Interim Dean were presented to the Chairman in support of bill (Attachment 5) by Representative Pat Colloton, Representative for the 28<sup>th</sup> District.

Representative Colloton testified for herself and Representative Eric Carter in support of two year scholarships for future math and science teachers in Kansas. (Attachment 6)

Dr. Andy Tompkins, Commissioner of Education provided information on teacher recruitment and retention needs in our state. Dr. Tompkins stated the State Board's strategic goals are to "recruit, prepare, support, and retain a competent, caring and qualified teacher for every classroom and leader for every school." Dr. Tompkins stated that this bill matches the intent of the State Board's goal. (Attachment 7)

Bill Reardon, representing the Kansas City, Kansas U.S.D. 500 endorsing **HB 2055**. Mr. Reardon testified that their school initiated several programs within their district to recruit teachers in high need areas. Mr. Reardon stated that they highly endorse **HB 2055** with provisions added to ensure employment in high need

## CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the House Higher Education Committee at 3:30 P.M. on February 2, 2005 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

districts and to include alternatively licensed candidates. (Attachment 8)

Chairman Sloan welcomed Diane Lindeman, Director of Student Financial Assistance, for the Kansas Board of Regents. Ms. Lindeman stated that the Kansas Board of Regents is in full support of student assistance programs that benefit students and ultimately, the State of Kansas. Ms. Lindeman stated that they explicitly support the objectives of the proposal, but strongly recommend that rather than creating a new scholarship program, that key aspects of **HB 2055** be included in the Kansas Teacher Service Scholarship Program. (Attachment 9)

Steven B. Case, Ph.D, from the University of Kansas, presented testimony for himself and not for the University of Kansas. Dr. Case stated that this bill begins to address a critical issue. (Attachment 10)

Chairman Sloan opened the floor to questions.

Representative Storm questioned Dr. Thompkins about the number of vacant positions in math and science. Dr. Thompkins provided a 5 year summary of teacher vacancies. (Attachment 11) Dr. Thompkins responded to questions presented by Representatives Horst, Otto, Pottorff, Kreibel, Sharp, and Horst regarding percentages of graduates with degrees in math and science actually going into teaching; questions regarding staffing in rural or urban areas of greatest needs, requirements to become a science teacher, and procedures needed to apply to receive scholarships.

The hearing on **HB 2055** was closed by Chairman Sloan at 4:40 p.m.

The Chairman opened the hearing on **HB 2063: Concerning residency determinations at state educational institutions; providing for appeals relating thereto.**

Representative Flora testified for Sean Gatewood who was to testify, but was unable to attend, due to previous changes in hearing dates. Representative Flora provided a background from last year's hearings. Mrs. Gatewood applied at Pittsburg State and received instate tuition status. Mrs. Gatewood decided to further her education and transferred to KU for her pharmaceutical degree. KU denied Mrs. Gatewood instate tuition status. Pittsburg State's contiguous county admission policy entitled Mrs. Gatewood to receive instate tuition at Pittsburg State even though she graduated from a Missouri high school. (Attachment 12) Art Griggs, Office of the Revisor also reported that last year's bill on this subject that was passed by the House of Representatives did not have the appeal feature of section 2 of **HB 2063**.

Conferee Mary Prewitt, General Counsel, Kansas Board of Regents testified regarding **HB 2063**. Ms. Prewitt indicated that under the current system, residence status for tuition purposes are determined by personnel in the registrar's or admissions office of each institution based upon the information contained in the student's application for admissions. Pittsburg State has a special residency factor, and determination is be made on the basis of the facts as they exist at the time of enrollment. (Attachment 13)

Chairman Sloan opened the floor to questions.

Representatives Sharp, Menghini and Otto questioned Ms. Prewitt about the procedures used by universities to determine residency status. Representatives Horst and Kuether asked Ms. Prewitt to elaborate on the appeal processes at universities.

Representative Phelps inquired about a settlement or refund to the Gatewood's. Ms. Prewitt stated that Mrs. Gatewood's entitlement to residency fees was still pending, until the determination of accuracy of Pittsburg State records were determined.

The hearing on **HB 2063** was closed at 5:00 p.m.

Chairman Sloan opened the hearing on **HB 2064: Providing for work placements in state agencies for university faculty and staff.**

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the House Higher Education Committee at 3:30 P.M. on February 2, 2005 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

Chairman Sloan welcomed Bob Masters who presented testimony for Reginald L. Robinson, President & CEO, Kansas Board of Regents who was unable to attend. Mr. Masters stated to the committee that this bill encourages and promotes the placement of state university faculty and staff into work experiences in non-university state agencies and agency projects that would strengthen their teaching skills or other aspects of job performances. (Attachment 14) He also stated that current law permits this process, but that **HB 2064** would require active efforts to achieve the placements.

The hearing was opened for discussion and questions.

Dr. Masters responded to Representatives Carlin's and Horst's questions regarding pay, benefits and retirement issues, addressed in the bill.

Chairman Sloan asked Dr. Masters to furnish the figures for participants in the current program.

Hearing closed on **HB 2064** at 5:10 p.m.

**HB 2065: Establishes a business workforce training advisory group to exchange information between the advisory group and the presidents of Kansas community colleges and technical colleges.**

Chairman Sloan opened the hearing on **HB 2065**. Dr. Blake Flanders, Director of Career and Technical Education for the Kansas Board of Regents and liaison to the Kansas Department of Commerce as a Director in the Kansas 1<sup>st</sup> program provided testimony to the committee. Dr. Flanders testified in support of the goals and objectives of **HB 2065**. Dr. Flanders stated that a business workforce training advisory group could give guidance to Presidents of community and technical colleges and enhance the technical training system by increasing capacity and aligning the system to meet both current and emerging needs. (Attachment 15)

Chairman Sloan opened the floor for discussion and questions.

No questions were asked by the committee.

Chairman Sloan closed the hearing on **HB 2065**.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 7, 2005, at 3:30 p.m. in RM. 231-N.