

MINUTES OF THE SENATE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Ty Masterson at 11:00am on Monday, March 14, 2016, 548-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:
Senator Jeff Melcher – Excused

Committee staff present:
Jill Wolters, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Scott Abbott, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Tamera Lawrence, Assistant Revisor, Office of Revisor of Statutes
David Wiese, Assistant Revisor, Office of Revisor of statutes
J.G. Scott, Legislative Research Department
Bobbi Mariani, Legislative Research Department
Shirley Morrow, Legislative Research Department
Dezeree Hodish, Legislative Research Department
Justin Carroll, Legislative Research Department
Debbie Luper, Chief of Staff
Dee Heideman, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:
Leslie Kaufman, President/CEO Kansas Cooperative Council
Tom Palace, Executive Director, Petroleum Karketrts and Convenience Store Ass of KS
Darren Muci, Division Director, Wichita Public Schools
Mark Tallman, Associate Executive Director Advocacy, Kansas Association of School Boards

Others in attendance:
[See Attached List](#)

Hearing on: SB499 — Requiring school districts to strategically source specific spend categories through the department of administration.

The Chairperson opened the hearing on **SB499**.

Tamera Lawrence, Assistant Revisor, Office of Revisor of Statutes, said **SB499** would require the Secretary of the Department of Administration to contract for the procurement of certain items and services on behalf of school districts ([Attachment 1](#)).

Senator Powell asked if a school district had a long-term contract with a vendor, would this bill negate the contract. Ms. Lawrence said the contract currently in place would be negated.

Proponents:

There were no proponents to stand before the committee.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Ways and Means at 11:00am on Monday, March 14, 2016 in Room 548-S of the Capitol.

Opponents:

Leslie Kaufman, President/CEO, Kansas Cooperative Council, noted that the bill would disrupt business and community relationships between local schools and area service providers, and their members ([Attachment 2](#)).

Senator Kerschen asked if most school districts own or lease their school buses. Ms. Kaufman said she didn't know the answer to that question.

Thomas Palace, Executive Director, Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association of Kansas, spoke in opposition, and said the bill would harm community and small businesses of Kansas. He noted other negative effects in his testimony. Mr. Palace said a similar pilot program for purchasing fuel was attempted a couple of years ago by the Kansas Department of Transportation that included school districts. Mr. Palace said the major problem with the program was that the school districts do not have underground tanks for fuel storage, and the program was discontinued ([Attachment 3](#)).

Darren Muci, Operations Division Director, Wichita Public Schools, appeared before the committee on behalf of USD 229 stating that he recognized the bill is intended as a starting point for discussion on collaboration. However, he opposes the bill due to the complexity, magnitude of implementation and short time frame for start-up ([Attachment 4](#)).

Mark Tallman, Associate Executive Director for Advocacy, Kansas Association of School Boards, opposes the bill as it is written, but he views this bill as an opportunity to have an honest conversation concerning the issue of centralized procurement. His testimony included graphs showing per pupil expenditures in several states ([Attachment 5](#)).

Senator Powell asked Mr Tallman if he had the total spending per pupil for all states compared to Kansas' rate. Mr. Tallman said he would furnish that information to the committee.

Written Proponent:

Dave Trabert, President, Kansas Policy Institute ([Attachment 6](#)).

Written Opponent:

Blue Valley Schools, USD229 ([Attachment 7](#)).

Westar Energy, KCP&L, Kansas Municipal Utilities, Kansas Electric Cooperatives, Kansas City Board of Public Utilities and Midwest Energy ([Attachment 8](#)).

James Jirak, GM/President, Pro-AG Marketing ([Attachment 9](#)).

After the discussion, the Chairperson closed the hearing on **SB499**.

Hearing on: SB504 — Establishing the parole and community corrections nursing home task force.

Unless specifically noted, the individual remarks recorded herein have not been transcribed verbatim. Individual remarks as reported herein have not been submitted to the individuals appearing before the committee for editing or corrections.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Ways and Means at 11:00am on Monday, March 14, 2016 in Room 548-S of the Capitol.

David Wiese, Assistant Revisor, Office of Revisor of Statutes, explained the bill which would establish the parole and community corrections nursing home task force which will study and review the feasibility of housing aging and frail populations of the Department of Corrections in a specialized nursing setting and shall submit a report to the Senate and House Corrections and Juvenile Justice Committees at the beginning of the 2017 legislature ([Attachment 10](#)).

Proponents:

There were no proponents to appear before the committee.

Opponents:

There were no opponents to appear before the committee.

Neutral

There were no neutral parties to appear before the committee.

Written Proponents:

Johnnie Goddard, Interim Secretary, Kansas Department of Corrections ([Attachment 11](#)).

After a period where questions were asked and answered, the Chairperson closed the hearing on **SB504**.

Possible action on bills previously heard

There was no action taken on bills previously heard.

The next Ways and Means Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 15, 2016, at 10:30 a.m., in Room 548-S at the Capitol.

Chairperson Masterson adjourned the meeting at 11:44 a.m.