

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Clay Aurand at 9:05 A.M. on March 11, 2008 in Room 313-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:
Benjamin Hodge- absent

Committee staff present:
Theresa Kiernan, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Dianne Rosell, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Dale Dennis, Kansas State Department of Education
Sharon Wenger, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Janet Henning, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:
Senator John Vratil
Senator Vicki Schmidt
Mark Tallman, Kansas Association of School Boards

SB 420: School districts; notice of non-renewal or termination of teachers' contracts

Senator Vratil spoke to Committee members in support of **SB 420**. Senator Vratil advised there are currently two statutes dealing with teacher continuing contract law. The statutes are inconsistent and in conflict with each other. (Attachment #1)

Chairman Aurand then closed the hearing on **SB 420**.

SB 470: School safety violations

Senator Schmidt addressed Committee members in support of **SB 470**. Senator Schmidt advised this bill changed the notification requirements regarding students expelled or suspended from school for committing a school safety violation. **SB 470** would correct the language. (Attachment #2)

Mark Tallman, Assistant Executive Director/Advocacy, Kansas Association of School Boards, spoke to Committee members in support of **SB 470**. The proposed amendment solves the problem by allowing reporting of observed misconduct to law enforcement. (Attachment #3)

A question and answer session followed the presentations.

Chairman Aurand then closed the hearing on **SB 470**.

HB 2870: School districts; authorizing pay differential for certain teachers

Mark Desetti, Kansas National Education Association, distributed a letter from Blake West, KNEA President with an explanation of their opposition to HB 2870. (Attachment #4)

Mr. Desetti also distributed to Committee members, a publication "Great Teachers for 21st Century Schools: A realistic plan to address the recruitment and retention of teachers" (publication on file - Kansas National Education Association)

HB 2714: Interstate compact on educational opportunity for military children.

Representative Loganbill moved to pass out HB 2714 favorably with no amendments. The motion was seconded by Representative Craft. The motion carried.

SB 437: ROTC service scholarships; community colleges

Written testimony was received from Diane Lindeman, Director, Student financial Assistance, Kansas Board of Regents, regarding the ROTC scholarship program. (Attachment #5)

Sharon Wenger, Research Analyst, Kansas Legislative Research Department, distributed a memorandum to Committee members regarding the funding for the National Guard Educational Assistance Program. (Attachment #6)

Representative Otto moved to pass out SB 437 favorably for passage. The motion was seconded by Representative Palmer. The motion carried.

SB 507: METS education innovation council; members; duties.

Theresa Kiernan told Committee members there would be technical "clean-up" amendments to include with this bill.

Representative Horst moved to pass out SB 507, favorably with technical amendments, for passage. Representative Spalding seconded the motion.

After an extended discussion among Committee members, Chairman Aurand suspended discussion of the bill.

SB 420: School districts; notice of non-renewal or termination of teachers' contracts

Representative Crow moved to pass out SB 420 favorably for passage. Representative Wolf seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 A.M. The next meeting is scheduled for March 12, 2008.