

Approved: 3-22-2000  
Date

## MINUTES OF THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Senator Barbara Lawrence at 9:00 a.m. on March 16, 2000 in Room 313S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Senators Bleeker, Downey, Hensley & Umbarger - Excused

Committee staff present: Avis Swartzman, Revisor  
Ben Barrett, Legislative Research  
Carolyn Rampey, Legislative Research  
Jackie Breymeyer, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Bill Docking, Chairman, State Board of Regents  
Dr. Kathy Rupp, Associate Director of Academic Affairs,  
State Board of Regents  
Dr. Kim Wilcox, Executive Director, State Board of Regents  
Carolyn Rampey, Legislative Research

Avis Swartzman, Revisor

Others attending: See Attached List

Chairperson Lawrence called the LEPC and joint meeting of the House and Senate Education Committees to order. She stated this a first for the LEPC to meet in combination with the House and Senate Education committees. She welcomed all those present to the committee. The LEPC decided to have a program review and to have a closer relationship with the Board so as to be mutually helpful in the new endeavor started last summer. She called on Bill Docking, Chairman of the Board of Regents.

Mr. Docking was present to give the long-term plans of the newly constructed Board of Regents. He began by stating the Board used to be an organization that dealt with 6 universities and now deals with 37 institutions. Business was conducted without fanfare. Things are different now. He stated he may be biased, but he believes the Higher Education Coordination Act of 1999 will go down as one of the most important pieces of legislation enacted by the state of Kansas. The Board has just begun to answer the role it will play in the new form of governance and transition and to specifically identify areas of long-term system-wide planning.

After several further comments, Mr. Docking came to the close of his talk by stating enormous comfort is taken from the fact that regardless of the makeup of the Board of Regents, the legislature and whoever occupies the governor's office, the people of Kansas will always be supportive of higher education. It took 25 years to consolidate higher education in Kansas; implementation of all the changes will not occur overnight. The Board is eager to roll up its sleeves and get to work.

Dr. Kathy Rupp, Associate Director for Academic Affairs, Board of Regents, addressed the Committee on the University Program Review Process. Dr. Rupp likened the program review to an annual checkup from a doctor. The review process looks at the large elements of the universities to make sure that they are working smoothly. A program can be continued, certain needs can be specified, monitored, reevaluated or discontinued. Program review's purpose is to support the campus mission and initiatives and to support the efforts of the universities and the Board to maximize the use of resources. Focus is on improvement of curriculum and instruction, but the ultimate goal is to improve the quality of the education that students receive at the universities.

Dr. Rupp, with the use of transparencies, continued through the background and review process and summed up with results of the review process and analysis contained in Program Review (Attachment 1).

The Chairperson called on Carolyn Rampey, Legislative Research, to give a summary of **SB 657**. Ms. Rampey stated the changes were mostly of a technical nature. She went through pages 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 of the bill, explaining the changes.

(Attachment 2)

## CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE, Room 123S Statehouse, at 9:00 a.m. on March 16, 2000.

Dr. Kim Wilcox, Board of Regents, presented his testimony (Attachment 3), The role and responsibilities of the new Kansas Board of Regents include continued governance of the universities and coordination and supervision of the community colleges, technical schools and Washburn University. He stated that he would not go over the same area since Ms. Rampey had done so in detail. He thanked Ms. Rampey and Avis Swatzman, Revisor, for their assistance in helping with the proposal.

Dr. Wilcox answered questions and the Chairperson called on the Revisor to explain the proposal.

The Revisor stated that in the Carl Perkins federal act, in which Kansas gets federal money, there has to be a state agency to administer the state plan for vocational education. The State Board of Regents and the State Board of Education got together and decided the State Board of Education could have the plan for three years; the Board of Regents would then take it back. What the amendment would do is to put the state plan back with the State Board of Education for three years when it will sunset. That will force the legislature to take a look at it in three years. The amendment will also amend on page 3, the definition of state board so that for the 2001-2003 school years the state board will mean the State Board of Education and after 2003 school year will mean the State Board of Regents. When the community colleges and the vocational technical schools were transferred to the Board of Regents, in the transfer language there are references to the state planning for community colleges and the state plan for vocational technical schools. Those sections were amended to strike those references so there will no longer be a state plan for community colleges and because now the state plan for vocational education will all go back to the State Board of Education. The amendment will repeal 72-4409, 72-4409(a), 72-4410 which refers to the federal advisory committee on vocational education which went defunct about three or four years ago and which the bill now lies in one of the House committees as of this point in time.

Senator Oleen stated she was supportive of the bill, but was hesitant on the amendment at this time.

Representative Reinhardt stated he had spoken with Mr. Dennis of the State Board of Education and other staff and he supports the amendment.

**Senator Oleen moved, seconded by Representative Horst to recommend SB 657 by the LEPC favorably to the Senate Education committee. The motion carried.**

**Senator Emert, seconded by Senator Langworthy recommended SB 657 favorably for passage. The motion carried.**

Presidents of the universities and community colleges who were present rose to be recognized.

The meeting was adjourned.