

Approved: 3-14-2000  
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 2, 2000 in Room 123S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Senator Langworthy - Excused

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

Conferees appearing before the committee: Representative Shari Weber

Others attending: See Attached List

Chairperson Lawrence called the meeting to order. Mark Desetti, KNEA, distributed reading materials to celebrate Read Across America day. Roy Williams, KU head basketball coach, is the honorary chairman and many athletes, as well as other persons, are reading to students across the state.

After several jovial comments about past school days by members of the committee, the Chairperson thanked Mr. Desetti and turned to:

**HB 2862 - transportation of non-resident pupils**

Representative Shari Weber, appeared on the bill and distributed testimony ([Attachment 1](#)) She explained why Representative Aurand could not be present to speak to the bill as he had to chair another meeting.

Representative Weber stated the bill addresses a loophole in the bill passed last year, **SB 17**. She related the story of the Boeh family of rural White City. Two of the family's three children can ride the bus because White City (out of district) is closer than Alta Vista, (in district) for grades 5-8. The third child is denied bus service because that child is closer to Dwight for grades K-4 (in district) than White City which is out of district. The third child is transported by parent to the nearest pick up point at the district boundary line which is two miles from the home.

Several members of the committee questioned why this could not be done without passage of legislation, but Representative Weber stated for whatever reason a school board chooses to permit or deny a child bus service, that decision stands; this is why the legislation is needed to permit a school district to transport certain nonresident pupils across school district boundaries for school attendance purposes.

Dale Dennis, Deputy Education Commissioner, stated this affects very few pupils.

**Senator Emert moved to amend section 5 of HB 2862 by having the act take effect upon publication in the Register.** He stated this would get transportation started as quickly as possible.

**Senator Oleen gave a second to the motion. The motion carried.**

The Chairperson asked if there was any sentiment for doing away with the sunset. It was decided to leave the sunset on the bill for the present.

**Senator Lee recommended passage of HB 2862 favorably as amended. Senator Oleen gave a second to the motion. The motion carried.**

The Subcommittees Chairpersons on Special Education and School Plans made a few comments on what was taking place and will have more in-depth reports at a later date.

The Chairperson stated she would allow time for the subcommittees to work next week.

The Chairperson called for final action on **HB 2655 - KS postsecondary educational savings program**

**Senator Umbarger recommended HB 2655 favorably for passage as amended. Senator Oleen gave a second to the motion. The motion carried**

The meeting was adjourned.