

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dwayne Umbarger at 1:35 p.m. on January 15, 2002 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Senator Emler (excused)
Senator Jenkins (excused)

Committee staff present: Ben Barrett, Legislative Research
Carolyn Rampey, Legislative Research
Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes
Dale Dennis, Deputy Commissioner of Education

Conferees appearing before the committee: Andy Tompkins, Commissioner of Education

Others attending: See attached list

Chairman Umbarger called the meeting to order and welcomed Committee members back. He introduced Andy Tompkins, Commissioner of Education to brief the Committee on the newly revised federal law concerning elementary education.

Andy Tompkins presented a review of HR1 "No Child Left Behind," the newly revised federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act. (Attachment 1) Mr. Tompkins used a slide presentation comparing the present Kansas program to the newly revised federal program. He explained what the Kansas school system is doing now and what the revised federal program will require. (Attachment 2)

Questions from Committee members were answered by Mr. Tompkins and Dale Dennis.

Chairman Umbarger passed out to Committee members a comparison of Governor Graves's budget proposal and the budget proposal by Senator Kerr and Senator Morris. (Attachment 3)

Bill introductions:

Senator Vratil made a motion to introduce a bill concerning school closings and the authority of school boards to close schools. Senator Schodorf seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Senator Oleen made a motion to introduce a bill concerning the teacher service scholarship program. Seconded by Senator Schodorf. Motion carried.

Dale Dennis stated the Board of Education would like a bill to be introduced to clarify the law on signing bonuses. Senator Schodorf made a motion to introduce the conceptual bill. Seconded by Senator Downey. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned 2:30 p.m.