

MINUTES OF THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Senator Dwayne Umbarger at 1:35 p.m. on February 19, 2003 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Senator Downey (excused)

Committee staff present: Carolyn Rampey, Legislative Research
Kathie Sparks, Legislative Research
Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statues
Judy Steinlicht, Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Christy Levings, KNEA
Senator Emler
Sue Gamble, Vice President, State Board of Education
Mark Tallman, KASB

Others attending: See Attached List

SB7–Technical Colleges; governing body

Christy Levings, KNEA, stated that KNEA is neutral on **SB7**, however, had concerns regarding the transition of employee rights and earned benefits. ([Attachment 1](#))

SCR1601-Proposition to amend sections 3 & 7 of the constitution of the state of Kansas

Senator Emler introduced **SCR1601** for a constituent who is concerned with what they see as continual political focus of the State Board of Education. This resolution would reduce the number of State Board members from ten to nine and make the State Board of Education be appointed by the Governor rather than be elected by the people. ([Attachment 2](#))

Sue Gamble, Vice Chairman, State Board of Education spoke as an opponent of **SCR 1601**. The State Board of Education strongly supports an accountability system that responds to the needs of Kansas citizens through the electoral process. This system of accountability appears to have worked well and they believe the governance of education in the state is best supported and enhanced through an elected State Board of Education. ([Attachment 3](#))

Mark Tallman, KASB spoke as an opponent of **SCR 1601**. KASB believes that members of the State Board of Education need to be elected by the voters, not appointed by the Governor. The board would support an amendment to change the number of board members to an odd number. ([Attachment 4](#))

An inquiry was made as to how other states appoint or elect their boards. The State Board of Education

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE at 1:30 p.m. on February 19, 2003 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

has this information and will provide it to the Committee.

SCR 1611 was also discussed briefly and will be scheduled for hearing tomorrow. This is a resolution to have the members of the local school boards elect the members of the State Board of Education.

Senator Corbin made a motion to approve the minutes of February 12 and 13. Seconded by Senator Schodorf. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for February 20, 2003 at 1:30 p.m. in Room 123-S.