

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tom Sloan at 3:30 P.M. on February 9, 2005 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Mary Galligan, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Deb Hollon, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Art Griggs, Office of the Revisor
Linda Reed, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Robert Masters, Vice President of Academic Affairs, Kansas Board of Regents
Sheila Frahm, Executive Director, Kansas Association of Community College Trustees

Others attending:

See attached list.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Sloan and opened for hearing on:

HB 2070: Postsecondary educational institutions; assessment of non-main campus versus main campus classes.

Chairman Sloan welcomed Robert Masters, Vice President of Academic Affairs, for the Board of Regents. Mr. Masters stated to the committee that he does not believe **HB 2070** would provide a workable or practical mechanism because of the anticipated costs of conducting proposed assessments. Mr. Masters testified that the Kansas Board of Regents is committed to ensuring all academic programs are of high quality regardless of location or means of delivery with regular and rigorous program review, CEO assessments, and accreditation work to produce and advance quality. (Attachment 1)

Chairman Sloan recognized Shelia Frahm, Executive Director, Kansas Association of Community College Trustees. Ms. Frahm provided to the committee a map listing campus sites and information regarding components of the association representing the 19 community college services. (Attachment 2)

Chairman Sloan opened the floor to questions.

Representative Kelsey asked Ms. Frahm to state her views regarding **HB 2070**. Ms. Frahm indicated that **HB 2070** is not needed as it exists.

Representative Horst stated that the Regents would be provided mandatory written reports if **HB 2070**, were implemented. Mr. Masters stated to the committee that reports are compiled each year in their office and are available to the public. Mr. Masters indicated that this bill would require another activity of the Board of Regents requiring a lot of time, effort and additional staff. Representative Phelps questioned Mr. Masters about additional staff needed.

Representatives Otto and Krehbiel asked Mr. Masters to elaborate on the accreditation process and the process used by Washburn University.

Chairman Sloan and Representative Johnson questioned Ms. Frahm about the standards for the faculty and courses in all community colleges. Ms. Frahm stated that standards for all courses are the same in all community colleges.

There being no further question. Chairman Sloan closed the hearing on **HB 2070**.

HB 2065 : Providing for a business workforce training advisory group.

Chairman Sloan recognized Art Griggs, Office of the Revisor. Mr. Griggs gave a brief explanation of **HB**

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2065, stating that the bill makes provisions for the establishment of a workforce training advisory group.

Chairman Sloan indicated that HB 2065 was discussed last year, but no action or bill introduction were taken.

After discussion, no action was taken on HB 2065.

HB 2072: Authorizing tuition and fee waivers for certain military personnel and dependents.

Chairman Sloan next directed the Committee's attention to HB 2072.

Chairman Sloan asked Art Griggs, Office of the Revisor to report on recommendations from the Subcommittee on the balloon for HB 2072 regarding certain military personnel and dependents.

Representative Horst, Craft, and Carlin asked for clarification of the language used regarding the word "killed".

Chairman Sloan referred the questions to Representative Krehbiel for clarification of military regulations. Representative Krehbiel discussed with the committee the investigative procedure used in the military when a person is seriously injured or killed to establish whether or not the incident occurred while in the line of duty. Representative Krehbiel stated that the definition is broad. If a person is on authorized leave and is involved in a car accident, and is killed, it is considered to be in the line of duty even though the person is not actually performing military duties at the time. A person who dies while absent without proper authority or involved in improper activity would not be considered in the line of duty.

There being no further questions, Chairman Sloan closed the discussion on HB2072.

Representative Kelsey moved that the Committee adopt the balloon. The motion was seconded by Representative Horst. The motion carried.

Representative Carlin moved to strike the word kill and insert who dies or died. The motion was seconded by Representative Storm. The motion carried.

Representative Johnson moved to pass **HB 2072** as amended. Representative Kelsey seconded. The motion was carried.

Chairman Sloan asked Representative Johnson to carry the bill.

Chairman Sloan adjourned the meeting at 4:40 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for February 14, 2005 at 3:30 p.m. in Rm. 231-N.