

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Clay Aurand at 9:00 A.M. on February 8, 2007 in Room 313-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Benjamin Hodge- absent
Representative Ted Powers- excused

Committee staff present:

Sharon Wenger, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Michele Alishahi, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Ashley Holm, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes
Janet Henning, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Representative Pat Colloton
Tim Rooney, Manager of Budget and Finance, Shawnee Mission, USD 512
Bob VanCrum, Blue Valley Government Affairs Specialist
Bill Brady, Schools for Fair Funding
Mark Tallman, Kansas Association of School Boards
Mark Desetti, KNEA
Sue Morgan, President, Lawrence Board of Education
Terry Forsyth, Director Political Action, KNEA
Bill Reardon, USD 500, Kansas City, Kansas

HB 2276 - School districts; levy authorized for districts which spend under the average per pupil.

Representative Colloton addressed the Committee as a proponent of **HB 2276**. (Attachment #1)

Tim Rooney spoke as a proponent of **HB 2276** and advised the bill would allow local communities to help offset the imperfections of the current formula and to provide additional opportunities for students. (Attachment #2)

Bob VanCrum advised the Committee that **HB 2276** would allow relief to school districts whose general fund per pupil budgets have been capped by State law and are for that reason forced to remain in the bottom 15 - 25% of all school districts. (Attachment #3)

Bill Brady spoke as an opponent to **HB 2276** and advised that passage of this proposal would place additional pressure on the property taxpayer for K-12 education. (Attachment #4)

Mark Tallman told Committee members that KASB was opposed to **HB 2276** because it would conflict with many of the basic policy positions on school finance adopted by their members. (Attachment #5)

Mark Desetti spoke as a neutral to **HB 2276**. (Attachment #6)

Following a discussion of questions and answers, the Chairman closed the hearing on **HB 2276**.

SB 69 - School finance; cost of living and declining enrollment weightings; LOB requirements.

Sue Morgan testified as a proponent of **SB 69**. (Attachment #7)

Terry Forsyth spoke to the Committee as a proponent of **SB 69**. (Attachment #8)

Bill Reardon addressed the Committee in opposition of **SB 69**. (Attachment #9)

The hearing on **SB 69** was then closed by the Chairman.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 AM. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 9, 2007.