

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Clay Aurand at 9:05 A.M. on March 6, 2008 in Room 313-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Marti Crow, excused
Ben Hodge, absent

Committee staff present:

Theresa Kiernan, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Dianne Rosell, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Dale Dennis, Kansas State Department of Education
Martha Dorsey, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Sharon Wenger, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Janet Henning, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Senator Karin Brownlee
Senator Nick Jordan
Dr. Gary George, Olathe School District
Kathyrne Mueller, Director of Academic Initiatives, Kansas Board of Regents
Dr. Ed Hammond, Ft. Hays State University
Tom Krebs, Kansas Association of School Boards
Written testimony - Paul Yaroslaski, Dodge City Community College
Written testimony - Stan Ahlerich, President, Kansas, Inc.
Written testimony - Eric Stafford, Kansas Associated General Contractors

SB 421: School districts; concurrent enrollment; pupils in grade 10

Senator Karin Brownlee spoke to Committee members in support of **SB 421**.

Dr. Gary George, Olathe School District, addressed Committee members in support of **SB 421**.
(Attachment #1)

Written testimony from Paul Yaroslaski, Professor of Information Technology, Faculty Association, President, Dodge City Community College, was given to Committee members in opposition of **SB 421**.
(Attachment #2)

A question and answer session followed the presentation.

The hearing for **SB 421** was closed.

SB 404: Kansas academy of mathematics and science; admission of nonresidents; fees and tuition; attendance and qualified admissions, exceptions.

Senator Nick Jordan spoke to Committee members in support of **SB 404** and advised that improving Kansas' capacity in mathematics, engineering, technology, and science (METS) is vital if Kansas is to remain nationally as well as internationally competitive. (Attachments #3 and #4)

Kathyrne Mueller, Director of Academic Initiatives, Kansas Board of Regents, spoke to Committee members and urged support of **SB 404**. She further stated that KAMS is a two-year residential academy for 11th and 12th graders who are academically talented in science and mathematics. Graduates will earn both a high school diploma and college credits equivalent to an associate degree. (Attachment #5)

Dr. Ed Hammond, President, Fort Hays State University, spoke to Committee members in support of **SB 404**. Dr. Hammond told Committee members this program was based in part after successful programs in Missouri and Texas. He stated KAMS will begin recruiting students in fall 2008, once funding is made

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available, with an anticipated first class of 40 Kansas juniors enrolling in fall 2009. (On file - “Kansas Academy of Mathematics and Science” Brochure and Booklet, Teacher Education & Physics Department, Fort Hays State University)

A question and answer session followed the presentations.

The hearing for **SB 404** was closed.

SB 507: METS education innovation council; members; duties

Theresa Kiernan, Revisor, Office of the Revisor of Statutes, gave an explanation of **SB 507** to Committee members.

Senator Jordan, while speaking to **SB 404**, also addressed support of **SB 507** to Committee members.

Tom Krebs, Governmental Relations specialist, Kansas Association of School Boards, spoke to Committee members in support of **SB 507**. (Attachment #6)

Written testimony was received from Stan Ahlerich, President, Kansas, Inc in support of **SB 507**. (Attachment #7)

Written testimony was received from Eric Stafford, Associated General Contractors of Kansas, Inc in support of **SB 507**. (Attachment #8)

A question and answer session followed the presentations.

The hearing for **SB 507** was closed.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 A.M. The next meeting is scheduled for March 7, 2008.