

February 5, 1970

MINUTES

COMMITTEE ON STATE AND LOCAL AFFAIRS

Room 526 State Capitol Building

All members present except Senators Foster, Saar and Ball

Chairman, Norman E. Gaar, called the Committee to order.

Mr. C. Taylor Whittier, Kansas Commissioner of Education present his views on Senate Bills 383, 385 and House Bill 1573.

Sen. Gaar to Mr. Whittier - Can a school board negotiate with a school on such subjects as what can be taught and how many days it requires to be accredited? Answer - There has been no limitation on what can be negotiated. The question is what can be negotiated under the Constitution. There might be things that the Legislature would deem mandate and the State Board would deem mandatory and any thing aside from that would fall under negotiations.

Sen. Thomas - The fact that 180 school days is a requirement cannot be negotiated. What other things would fall into that category? Answer - Funding of education, certification of teachers and things of that nature.

Sen. Gaar - If neither party wants to negotiate, then they shouldn't have to, correct? Yes - Gaar - What if one party wants negotiations and the other does not? In that event, they should be required to do so.

Sen. Gaar - What are your views on teachers striking? Answer - Teachers are better off if there is no provision for striking. Personally, I am not in favor of striking, it is only detrimental.

Sen. Herd - Where do students enter into the picture? Answer - Students do not and should not run the schools, but we have to listen to them, this is very necessary and the fact that we have not listened is one of the reasons we are in such a bind right now.

Sen. Gaar - Would a student group be helpful at any stage of negotiations? Answer - I think it would be helpful to listen to the students at any stage. Opinions should be based on all available information.

Senator Herd - If you had arbitration to take care of the impasse, could you have negotiations on any subject? Answer - Arbitration applies usually to items that are covered in contracts. Negotiations are, of course, handled in their final stages by arbitration.

Sen. Gaar - Do you feel that teachers should be included in the bill which applies to public employees? Answer - My advise would be to have two separate bills.

Sen. Gaar explained S. B. 506 to the Committee. On a motion by Senator West, seconded by Sen. Shultz, it was voted to recommend the bill favorable for passage to the full Senate.

John Dekker, City Attorney of Wichita, Kansas explained Senate Bills No. 519, 520, 523, 524 and 526 to the Committee. The motions on the bills are as follows:

S.B. 519 - Motion to pass Robinson, second Thomas, carried.
S. B. 520 - Motion to pass Robinson, second Thomas, carried.
S. B. 523 - Motion to pass Shultz, second Robinson, carried.
S. B. 524 - Motion to pass Robinson, second Thomas, carried.
S. B. 526 - Motion to pass Robinson, second Shultz, carried.

Adjournment.

Respectfully Submitted


Charlotte M. Olander
Recording Secretary


Chairman