	Approved <u>April 26, 1991</u> Date
MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON .	EDUCATION
The meeting was called to order by	SENATOR JOSEPH C. HARDER Chairperson at
1:30 Thursday, March	7 , 19 91 in room 123-S of the Capitol.
All members were present except:	

Committee staff present:

Mr. Ben Barrett, Legislative Research Department

Ms. Avis Swartzman, Revisor of Statutes

Mr. Dale Dennis, Assistant Commissioner of Education

Mrs. Millie Randell, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

SB 193 - Public postsecondary education institutions, exceptance to state residence duration requirements for tuition and fee purposes.

Proponents:

Senator Lana Oleen

Mr. Ted D. Ayres, General Counsel, State Board of Regents

SB 63 - School districts, requiring maintenance and teaching of kindergarten.

Proponents:

Senator Doug Walker, sponsor

Ms. Pat Baker, Associate Executive Director, General Counsel, Kansas Association of School Boards

Mr. Gerry Henderson, Executive Director, United School Administrators of Kansas

Mr. Craig Grant, Director of Political Action, Kansas-National Education Association

SB 285 - An act concerning USD 231, Johnson County, relating to the financing thereof.

Proponents:

Senator Gus Bogina

Ms. Shirley Brown, President, Gardner-Edgerton-Antioch School Board, USD 231 Dr. Gary R. George, Superintendent, USD 231

Ms. Pat Baker, Associate Executive Director, Kansas Association of School Boards

Mr. Charles L. (Chuck) Stuart, Legislative Liaison, United School Administrators of Kansas

Mr. Craig Grant, Director of Political Action, Kansas-National Education Association

Ms. Gerry Ray, Governmental Officer, Johnson County Board of Commissioners

SB 193 - Public postsecondary education institutions, exceptance to state residence duration requirements for tuition and fee purposes.

Following a call to order by Chairman Joseph C. Harder, the Chair announced that the Committee first would hear SB 193 and called upon Senator Lana Oleen.

Senator Oleen explained that SB 193 "pertains to the recognition of retired military and their dependents for in-state status regarding tuition fees". (Attachment 1) Senator Oleen pointed out that the G.I. Bill provisions have changed from what they were five years ago.

The Chair called upon Mr. Ted Ayres who, he said, will address both SB 21 and SB 193, explaining that both bills relate to the same topic.

Mr. Ted Ayres, General Counsel, State Board of Regents, stated that he has discussed \underline{SB} 193 with Senator Oleen and that both the Board of Regents and he support the intent of the bill. The Board, he said, will take steps
Unless specifically noted, the individual remarks recorded herein have not been transcribed verbatim. Individual remarks as reported herein have not

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINU	TES OF TH	HE SEN	ATE (COMMITTEE ON	EDUCATION	ON	
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room	123-5 St	atehouse at	T:20	XXX./n.m. on	Thursday, Ma:	rcn /	1991

to implement the provisions of $\underline{\text{SB}}$ 193 if it is approved by this Committee and the entire Legislature.

Mr. Ayres then called attention to \underline{SB} $\underline{21}$ and reminded the Committee that \underline{SB} $\underline{21}$ is a residency bill relating to those students who have graduated from a Kansas high school but whose parents no longer reside in Kansas. Mr. Ayres explained that following the Committee hearing of \underline{SB} $\underline{21}$ on January 30, he had sought additional information regarding abuses in enrollment, and it appears they are more extensive than he originally thought. He also recalled Committee concern relating to the rigidity of the provisions and said he has proposed revisions to address these concerns. (Attachment 2)

The Chair thanked Mr. Ayres for his follow-up testimony and his suggested amendments to \underline{SB} $\underline{21}$ and said the Committee will take the bill under advisement.

 $\underline{\text{SB}}$ 63 - School districts, requiring maintenance and teaching of kindergarten.

The Chair asked the Committee to turn its attention to \underline{SB} 63, relating to kindergarten, and called upon Senator Walker, sponsor of the bill.

Senator Walker explained that \underline{SB} 63 would change kindergarten from an optional to a mandated program and merely reflect what most schools are doing already. (Attachment 3)

Ms. Pat Baker, Associate Executive Director, Kansas Association of School Boards, testified that because the importance of early childhood education is being recognized, and because all school districts in Kansass do offer a kindergarten program, SB 63 would update Kansas law. (Attachment 4)

Mr. Gerry Henderson, Executive Director, United School Administrators of Kansas, stated that at a time when all research says "the earlier, the better", it is inappropriate that districts are extended the option to have a kindergarten program. (Attachment 5)

Mr. Craig Grant, a proponent, maintained that passage of \underline{SB} would ensure that kindergarten would not be removed from the curriculum when district budget cutting occurs. (Attachment 6)

Following a call for additional conferees, the Chairman announced that the hearing on $\underline{\sf SB}$ was concluded.

 $\underline{\text{SB}}$ 285 - An act concerning USD 231, Johnson County, relating to the financing thereof.

The Chair called Committee attention to \underline{SB} 285 and welcomed Senator Gus Bogina to the Committee as the first conferee.

Senator Bogina explained that he was requested to introduce <u>SB 285</u> which is intended to address a problem that affects only one school district, Gardner-Edgerton-Antioch, USD 231. He stated that the district's budget is based on valuation that has decreased by 25% due to property tax appeals. He said that because the district has lost 25% of its base for funding schools, <u>SB 285</u> attempts to solve that problem. He stated that although the district is not part of his constituency, he feels it is an urgent problem that needs to be addressed. He relinquished further explanation to the conferees who follow.

Ms. Shirley Brown, president of the Gardner-Edgerton-Antioch School Board, said she is here to seek help in securing their budget for the ensuing budget year. She said approximately 25% of the assessed valuation in her school district yields no real estate taxes due to an unusual situation

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION ,
room 123-S, Statehouse, at 1:30 XXX./p.m. on Thursday, March 7 , 19.91

at the Johnson County Industrial Airport. She said \underline{SB} $\underline{285}$ will help them deal with this tax crisis which has occurred through no fault of their own. She said the patrons and children of her district need legislative help to deal with this unusual problem.

The Chair called upon the superintendent of the Gardner-Edgerton-Antioch School District, Dr. Gary R. George, who provided further information for his school district's request for passage of SB 285. (Attachment 7)

Kansas Association of School Boards' Associate Executive Director Ms. Pat Baker supported passage of \underline{SB} because of the uniqueness of the situation and the possible severe consequences that would ensue. (Attachment 8)

"Because the amount of assessed valuation involved makes this a unique situation and would not open the door for every district whose taxes are being paid under protest to seek redress," Mr. Chuck Stuart, United School Administrators of Kansas, supported passage of $\underline{\mathtt{SB}}$ 285. (Attachment 9)

Also testifying in support of $\underline{\text{SB}}$ 285, Mr. Craig Grant, Kansas-National Education Association's Director of Poltical Action, noted it is a localized bill dealing only with USD 231 and appears to be a logical solution to the problem. (Attachment 10)

Responding to questions, Mr. Dale Dennis, Assistant Commissioner of Education (staff), said he is aware of no other district in Kansas having the same or similar problem; however, he explained that the Supreme Court case affecting Meade and Cunningham dealt with the current year's budget. He also stated it is his undertanding that if a protest is filed under the tax exempt property statute, payment for taxes is not due until the case is settled. He said that because he has been told by all affected parties that the case will be appealed, it could be two or more years before the case is settled. He estimated the annual dollar amount involved would be between \$750,000 and \$800,000.

Ms. Gerry Ray, intergovernmental officer, Johnson County Board of Commissioners, completed the proponents' testimony in support of <u>SB 285</u>. (Attachment 11)

Following a call for further conferees, the Chair announced that the hearing on $\underline{\text{SB}}$ 285 was concluded and the bill would be taken under advisement.

The Chair then directed Committee attention to $\underline{SB\ 21}$, relating to residency requirements for postsecondary institutions, and reminded the Committee of proposed amendments ($\underline{Attachment\ 12}$) worked out between Senator Langworthy and Mr. Ayres following the hearing on $\underline{SB\ 21}$ in January. He then asked the Committee's pleasure.

Senator Langworthy moved that the Committee adopt the amendments to SB 21 as proposed by Mr. Ted Ayres. Senator Anderson seconded the motion, and the amendments were adopted.

Senator Langworthy moved that SB 21, as amended, be recommended favorably for passage. Senator Parrish seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

The Chair then directed Committee attention to \underline{SB} 193, relating to postsecondary residency requirements for the military, and asked the Committee's pleasure.

Senator Langworthy moved that SB 193 be reommended favorably for passage. Senator Montgomery seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

When the Chair called for action on \underline{SB} 63, relating to the school district kindergarten mandate, Senator Allen moved that \underline{SB} 63 be recommended favorably for passage. Senator Walker seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION	
room 231-S, Statehouse, at 1:30 xxxx./p.m. on Thursday, March 7	, 199
Senator Allen moved that SB 285, relating to the financing thereof	
USD 231, Johnson County, be recommended favorably for passa Senator Frahm seconded the motion, and the motion carried.	ige.
Senator Anderson moved, and Senator Langworthy seconded the motion	to
approve minutes of the meeting of March 4. The minutes were approved.	
The Chairman adjourned the meeting.	

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

TIME: 1:30 p.m. PLACE: 123-S DATE: Thursday, March 7, 1991

GUEST LIST

	GODDI HIDI	
NAME	ADDRESS	ORGANIZATION
Jammer Throckmoston	8008 MIGHDR.	
Trais Port	2)14 W 8/ET Terr	
Transi Dlophon	1) 22 charlyich	
Gelen Stephene	pV	BU USD 228
Post Bakeh	H+ Stoppha	KASB
Gerald Mederso	. Opelia	USA
Anily Brown	London	45,0, 231
Hany R. Heavye	Po, Box 97 Gardner Ks	USD 231
John Tras	//	USD 231
TED D. ATTES	TOPEKA	BOARD RECENTS
Sanet Dwanson	Gardner	Lardner News
Builla Highlier Scot	+ Tooka	LEX
Jany P. Trandlin	Kansas City	USD 500
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Merla Hee	<i>"</i>	Racc
Kriste Wardel	· · ((ASK
Craix Drant	Topelsa	HOUEA
In Edwards	Topeka	KCCT
Meryl Grosslans	- Minneapolis, Ks.	
Pat Grosshans	a	u
Kenda Bartlett	A. LEQUENWORTH	Concerned Women for amer. 9k
Pat O'Brien	Victoria	Supt of Schools
Roy Keller	Wakeeney	Supt let Schools
Janee Waller	St. Murio	(winter)
Denne apt	Topela	(Soffee)

LANA OLEEN
SENATOR, 22ND DISTRICT
RILEY AND GEARY COUNTIES

LEGISLATIVE HOTLINE

1-800-432-3924

TOPEKA

SENATE CHAMBER

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

CHAIRMAN: GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION VICE-CHAIRMAN: CONFIRMATIONS LABOR: INDUSTRY AND SMALL

BUSINESS
MEMBER ASSESSMENT AND TAXATION
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

JUDICIARY

LEGISLATIVE EDUCATIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE CHILDREN AND YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

JOINT COMMITTEE ON ARTS AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

TESTIMONY ON SB 193

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

MARCH 7, 1991

Chairman Harder and Members of the Committee:

I appreciate the opportunity to appear before you today in support of SB 193.

The bill pertains to the recognition of retired military and their dependents for in-state status regarding tuition fees. The legislation would recognize the United States Armed Forces Act which provides a 30 day discharge window whereby a retired military individual has an opportunity to claim the state of residence. The retired military person must move to the state in the event last assignment is in another state or country, establish a residence and obtain vehicle registration, usually voter registration, and other responsibilities associated with residency status for any citizen.

The bill makes a stipulation which applies to retired military who have been in service status in our state for a period of two years. It is my belief that men and women who have had an opportunity to serve in our state should be welcomed at our educational institutions at a tuition rate which is recognized as in-state status.

With the arrival of the citizen comes a retirement check for the person who has served our country and the G.I. Bill provisions for continuing education, should the person proceed in career enhancement or pursuit of another career.

Other states, which include Wisconsin, Maryland, Minnesota, Iowa and Nebraska, recognize that our military serve all of our states and recognize the Armed Services' procedures of discharge. I would hope that Kansas would join the recognition through passage of this bill.

3/7/91 Al

STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 143-N TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612 (913) 296-7360 Chairperson Harder and Members of the Committee:

My name is Ted D. Ayres and I am General Counsel to the Kansas Board of Regents. I am here this afternoon representing the Board of Regents.

I speak initially in support of Senate Bill 21. As you know, Senate Bill 21 relates to K.S.A. 76-729(b)(6), which the Legislature added in 1987 (L. 1987, Ch. 264, Section 3). The statutory language provides that the Board of Regents may permit the following individuals to pay an amount equal to resident fees:

"(6) persons who have graduated from a high school accredited by the state board of education within 12 months of enrollment and who are entitled to admission pursuant to $K.S.A.\ 72-116$ and amendments there to;"

We have been advised of situations where children of non-resident parents have attended a private high school in Kansas, i.e. Bishop Miege, Maur Hill, Thomas More Prep School, and graduated therefrom and then sought benefits under the above-referenced statute. We have also received numerous inquiries from foreign nationals who have attended high school in Kansas, some for a very brief time, obtained a diploma and then sought benefits under this provision of the law.

As a follow-up to the first hearing on January 30, I sought to make some determination as to the number of abuse situations which were occurring. The results of my "informal polling" are shown in Attachment 1 to my written testimony. It would appear that in my effort to be conservative in responding to the Committee's question about numbers, I underestimated the extent of the usage.

I have also considered the concerns expressed by Senator Frahm and other members of the Committee that the resolution presently proposed by Senate Bill No. 21 was perhaps too firm. I would

EDUC 3/7/91 A2-1 therefore propose that Senate Bill No. 21 be modified as shown in Attachment 2 to my written testimony.

In reference to Senator Montgomery's questions about individuals from a neighboring state who graduate from a Kansas high school, it is my suggestion that no revisions be made. While this is certainly a legislative policy choice, I would submit that these individuals not be extended a waiver. As you consider this policy choice, I would remind the Committee that these individuals would be free to attend the public universities in their home state as resident students.

I have reviewed Senate Bill No. 193 on behalf of the Board of Regents. I have also discussed the bill with Senator Oleen and I am aware of her intent. If these modifications are passed, the Board will take steps to implement them.

Finally, I wanted to make the Committee aware of a March 1, 1991, decision of the Kansas Supreme Court. In the case of Peck v. University Residence Committee of Kansas State University v. The Kansas Board of Regents (Case No. 65,479), the Court determined that the residency rules and regulations of the Kansas Board of Regents are appropriate, reasonable, within the authority conferred by law and constitutional. In that opinion, the Court said:

"A state has a 'legitimate interest in protecting and preserving the quality of its colleges and universities and the right of bona fide residents to attend such institutions on a preferential tuition basis.'" (p. 33)

Thank you for your attention to my comments. I would be happy to stand for questions.



KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS

SUITE 609 ● CAPITOL TOWER ● 400 SW EIGHTH ● TOPEKA, KANSAS 66603-3911 ● (913) 296-3421

February 19, 1991

The Honorable Joseph Harder Chairman, Senate Committee on Education Room 143-N., Statehouse Topeka, Kansas

In re: Senate Bill 21

Dear Senator Harder:

This will serve to follow-up on the hearing which took place on Wednesday, January 30, 1991, with reference to the above-noted As a follow-up to Senator Allen's question about the number of incidents of abuse of K.S.A. 76-729(b)(6), and my perception of Committee interest in this regard, I have followed up with representatives of the Regents institutions. I believe the results of my "informal polling" to be very interesting with regard to the extent of the problem, i.e.

- 1. KSU I have enclosed a February 13, 1991, letter from Donald E. Foster, University Registrar at KSU. Mr. Foster explains the high numbers for the "high school graduate" situation vis-a-vis KSU, and this illustrates another aspect of the situation.
- KU We are informed that some 15-20 individuals from foreign countries and some 15-20 "private school" graduates are presently taking advantage of resident rates this semester because of the (b)(6) exception.
- WSU We are informed that approximately 15 individuals from foreign countries are presently taking advantage of resident rates this semester because of the (b)(6) exception.
- ESU We are informed that approximately 2-3 students a year benefit from the (b)(6) exception at ESU.
- 5. PSU We are informed that PSU presently has 2 students who are benefiting from the (b)(6) exception.
- FHSU We are informed that approximately 3 individuals from foreign countries and approximately 2 "private school" graduates are presently taking advantage of resident rates this semester because of the (b)(6) exception. EDUC

7. KCT - KCT advises that they have had about 3-4 students who have previously taken advantage of the exception as a foreign student or a private school graduate.

It appears that in my effort to be conservative in responding to the Committee's question about numbers, I drastically underestimated the extent of the usage. I hope that you and the Committee will find this information to be helpful in your deliberations.

I will be contacting Avis Swartzman this week to discuss possible revisions in the present language to better accommodate the concerns expressed by some individual Committee members. If we can formulate some viable suggestions, I will bring those to your attention with a request for reconsideration by the Committee as a whole.

Please advise should you have any questions. As always, your assistance and leadership with regard to educational issues are appreciated.

Sincerely,

Ted D. Ayres General Counsel

cc: Senator Jim Allen
Senator Audrey Langworthy
Stanley Z. Koplik
University Registrars
Avis Swartzman



University Registrar

118 Anderson Hall Manhattan, Kansas 66506-0114 913-532-6254

February 13, 1991

Tod D. Ayres, General Counsel Kansas Board of Regents 400 SW 8th, Suite 609, Capinol Tower Topeka, KS 66603-3911

Dear Ted:

This lotter is in response to your request for information concerning the number of students who received reduced fees at Kansas State University due to graduation from a Kansas High School. The following table indicates our current enrollment.

<u>Student Status</u>	Number Enrolled
Foreign Students graduating from a Kansas High School	17
U.S. Citizens (Kansas High School grads)	132
lotal	149

I suspect our U.S. Citizen (Kansas High School grads) hay be larger than some other institutions as a fairly significant proportion of that group appear to be dependents of military personnel who graduated from a High School in Kansas while the parent was stationed at Fort Riley. The student would originally have attended as a military dependent, but when the parent leaves the state if they have graduated from a Hansas High School we allow that fee privilege.

If you have any questions about this data, please let me know.

Sincerely vours,

Donald E. Poster

University Registrar

eal

c: Dick Elkins

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SENATE BILL No. 21

By Legislative Educational Planning Committee

Re Proposal No. 18

12-28

AN ACT concerning public institutions of postsecondary education; relating to residence of students for fee purposes; amending K.S.A. 76-729 and K.S.A. 1990 Supp. 71-302, and repealing the existing sections.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. K.S.A. 1990 Supp. 71-302 is hereby amended to read as follows: 71-302. (a) Subject to the other provisions of this section, tuition shall be charged to out-of-state and foreign students at rates which shall be set by the board of trustees in accordance with the provisions of subsection (a)(2) of K.S.A. 71-301, and amendments thereto.

(b) The following persons, or any class or classes thereof, and their spouses and dependents, may be admitted to a community college at the same rate of tuition as in-state students: (1) Persons who are in active military service of the United States; (2) persons who are domiciliary residents of the state, who were present in the state in active military service immediately prior to becoming domiciliary residents of the state, whose domiciliary residence was established in the state immediately upon discharge or retirement from active military service under honorable conditions, but whose domiciliary residence was not timely enough established to meet the residence duration requirements requirement of K.S.A. 71-406, and amendments thereto; (3) persons who are employees of a community college; (4) persons having special domestic relation relations circumstances; (5) persons who have lost their resident status within six months of enrollment; (6) persons who are not dominitary residents of the state, who have graduated from a high school accredited by the state board of education within 12 months of enrollment at a community college, who at the time of graduation from such a high school were domiciliary residents of the state, and who are entitled to admission at a state university educational institution pursuant to K.S.A. 72-116, and amendments thereto; and (7) persons who are domiciliary residents of the state, whose domiciliary resi-

SIX

AT THE TIME OF GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL OR WITHIN TWELVE MONTHS BEFORE GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL

dence was established in the state for the purpose of accepting, upon recruitment by an employer, or retaining, upon transfer required by an employer, a position of full-time employment at a place of employment in Kansas, but the domiciliary residence of whom was not timely enough established to meet the residence duration requirements requirement of K.S.A. 71-406, and amendments thereto, and who are not otherwise eligible under this subsection for admission at in-state student tuition rates.

- (c) As used in this section:
- (1) "Domiciliary resident" means a person who has present and fixed residence in Kansas where the person intends to remain for an indefinite period and to which the person intends to return following absence.
- (2) "Full-time employment" means employment requiring at least 1,500 hours of work per year.
- (d) The state board of education shall adopt rules and regulations for administration of the provisions of this section. Such rules and regulations shall prescribe criteria and guidelines for determination by a board of trustees of the eligibility of persons specified in subsection (b) for admission at in-state student tuition rates and shall specify the evidence necessary to be submitted by such persons to a board of trustees as proof of eligibility. Evidence submitted by a person as proof of eligibility claimed under subsection (b)(7) must include, but not by way of limitation, certification of the claim by the employer of the person.
- Sec. 2. K.S.A. 76-729 is hereby amended to read as follows: 76-729. (a) Persons enrolling at the state educational institutions under the control and supervision of the state board of regents who, if such persons are adults, have not been or, if such persons are minors, whose parents have not been residents of the state of Kansas for at least 12 months prior to enrollment for any term or session in at a state educational institution are nonresidents for fee purposes.
- (b) The state board of regents may authorize the following persons, or any class or classes thereof, and their spouses and dependents to pay an amount equal to resident fees:
 - (1) Persons who are employees of a state educational institution;
 - (2) persons who are in military service;
- (3) persons who are domiciliary residents of the state, who were present in the state in active military service immediately prior to becoming domiciliary residents of the state, whose domiciliary residence was established in the state immediately upon discharge or retirement from active military service under honorable conditions, but whose domiciliary residence was not timely enough established

to meet the residence duration requirements requirement of subsection (a);

- (4) persons having special domestic relation relations circumstances;
- (5) persons who have lost their resident status within six months of their enrollment;
- (6) persons who are not domiciliary residents of the state, who have graduated from a high school accredited by the state board of education within 12 months of enrollment, who at the time of graduation from such a high school were domiciliary residents of the state, and who are entitled to admission at a state educational institution pursuant to K.S.A. 72-116, and amendments thereto; and
- (7) persons who are domiciliary residents of the state, whose domiciliary residence was established in the state for the purpose of accepting, upon recruitment by an employer, or retaining, upon transfer required by an employer, a position of full-time employment at a place of employment in Kansas, but the domiciliary residence of whom was not timely enough established to meet the residence duration requirements requirement of subsection (a), and who are not otherwise eligible for authorization to pay an amount equal to resident fees under this subsection.
 - (c) As used in this section:
- (1) "Parents" means and includes natural parents, adoptive parents, stepparents, guardians and custodians.
- (2) "Guardian" has the meaning ascribed thereto by K.S.A. 59-3002, and amendments thereto.
- (3) "Custodian" means a person, agency or association granted legal custody of a minor under the Kansas code for care of children.
- (4) "Domiciliary resident" means a person who has present and fixed residence in Kansas where the person intends to remain for an indefinite period and to which the person intends to return following absence.
- (5) "Full-time employment" means employment requiring at least 1,500 hours of work per year.
- Sec. 3. K.S.A. 76-729 and K.S.A. 1990 Supp. 71-302 are hereby repealed.
- Sec. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.

AT THE TIME OF
GRADUATION FROM HIGH
SCHOOL OR WITHIN TWELVE
MONTHS BEFORE GRADUATION
FROM HIGH SCHOOL

SIX

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

MEMBER: CONFIRMATIONS
EDUCATION
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS
PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE

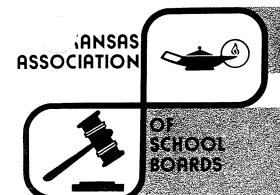




SENATE CHAMBER

TESTIMONY FAVORING PASSAGE OF SB 63

Senate Bill 63 would require that kindergarten be offered in all school districts in Kansas. At this time, Kansas law states that kindergarten is an optional program. Optional though it is, every school district currently offers kindergarten so it would require no change in current practice and has no fiscal impact. It simply codifies current practice and reinforces the fact that the legislature believes that early childhood programs are important.



5401 5. W. 7th Avenue Topeka, Kansas 66606 913-273-3600

Testimony on S.B. 63 before the Senate Committee on Education

by

Patricia E. Baker
Associate Executive Director/General Counsel
Kansas Association of School Boards

March 7, 1991

Mr. Chairman, thank you for the opportunity to appear in support of Senate Bill 63.

With the increase in awareness of the importance of early childhood education, we think it appropriate that Kansas law be updated to conform to what is the actual practice in our public schools.

Currently all 304 unified school districts offer kindergarten.

We recommend favorable consideration of Senate Bill 63. Thank you.



SB 63

March 7,1991

Testimony presented before the Senate Committee on Education by Gerald W. Henderson, Executive Director United School Administrators of Kansas

Mister Chairman and members of the committee. United School Administrators of Kansas is in support of SB 63 which would require that all school districts offer Kindergarten. Since all districts now offer Kindergarten, it would appear to cause no burden on anyone and should serve to add statutory support to existing practice. If SB 63 is necessary to ensure that all Kansas districts continue to offer Kindergarten in the future, then we urge you to recommend the bill favorably for passage.

SB63/gwh

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Craig Grant Testimony Before The Senate Education Committee Thursday, March 7, 1991

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am Craig Grant and I represent Kansas-NEA. I appreciate this opportunity to visit with the committee about <u>SB 63</u>.

Kansas-NEA supports <u>SB 63</u> which requires the maintenance and teaching of kindergarten in our schools. Since all accredited districts now offer such a program, we believe the bill would just maintain the status quo.

Kindergarten is an important part of a child's education. We have heard earlier this session about how early intervention is important. What <u>SB 63</u> will do is to insure that when the budget cutting occurs at the school district level, as it appears it will, that kindergarten will not be a program removed from the curriculum.

Kansas-NEA supports <u>SB 63</u> and hopes the committee recommends it favorably for passage. Thank you for listening to our concerns.

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Testimony of
Gardner-Edgerton-Antiooch
Unified School District No. 231
Supporting SB 285

Before the Senate Education Committee of the Kansas Senate

March 7, 1991

Presented by:

Gary R. George, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools Unified School District No. 231

> EDUC 3/7/91 17-1

I want to thank you for allowing me to speak with you today regarding SB 285.

Senate Bill 285 is a special bill for the Gardner-Edgerton-Antioch School District No. 231. This proposed legislation would help correct a major problem for our school district.

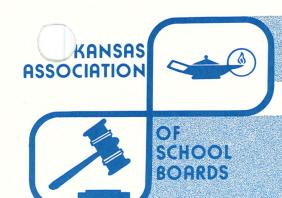
In 1989, the Johnson County Appraiser placed a number of properties at the Johnson County Industrial Airport on the tax rolls. It is my understanding that for one reason or another, tax exemption requests had not been filed with the State Board of Tax Appeals. Consequently, the Appraiser had no justifiable reason to keep the properties off the tax rolls. These properties have an assessed valuation of \$14,769,210. This was added to our assessed valuation, bringing our total to \$60,351,270. Normally this is good. However, in this case the companies are not paying any real estate taxes as per K.S.A. 79-213i.

This had the following impact:

- Our district wealth was artifically increased, and consequently we were eligible for less state aide.
- 2. The inclusion of the airport valuation figures tended to depress our levy, resulting in less revenue.
- 3. The inclusion of the airport valuation figures in our budget calculations artificially increases our tax in process, which tends to lower the levy.
- 4. The net effect of all of this is a substantial underfunding of our district budget.

As you might suspect, it was extremely difficult to prepare our budget last summer knowing that no real estate taxes would be forthcoming from 25% of the assessed valuation of our school district. Essentially if \$100 of taxes were required, only \$75 of revenue was forthcoming. We eventually were able to structure a budget. We will be able to avoid no-fund warrants this year, but our cash balance as of July 1, will be dropping by approximately \$250,000.

EDUC 3/7/9 A1-2



5401 S. W. 7th Avenue Topeka, Kansas 66606 913-273-3600

Testimony on S.B. 285
before the
Senate Committee on Education

by

Patricia E. Baker Associate Executive Director/General Counsel Kansas Association of School Boards

March 7, 1991

On behalf of Kansas school boards we ask your favorable consideration of Senate Bill 285. Unified School District 231 faces a unique situation in the determination of the assessed valuation for purposes of determining district wealth. Because of the uniqueness of the situation and because of severe consequences of the present situation we request that Senate Bill 285 be reported favorably.



- SB 285

March 7, 1991

Testimony presented before the Senate Education Committee by Charles L. "Chuck" Stuart, Legislative Liaison United School Administrators of Kansas

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, United School Administrators of Kansas appreciates the opportunity to speak on behalf of the Gardner School District in support of SB 285.

The assessed valuation of the Johnson County Industrial Airport is included in the definition of district wealth in the School District Equalization Act formula, but no ad valorem tax money is being received by the district for this assessed valuation. This causes a significant increase in the school district tax levy.

The district is asking that the amount of this assessed valuation be deleted from the definition of wealth in the SDEA formula and the district be granted SDEA funds on the basis of a lesser district assessed valuation. If payment of ad valorem property tax is eventually paid on this property, the Gardner School District will reimburse the State Board of Education for any overpayment of SDEA funds.

The amount of assessed valuation involved makes this a unique situation and would not open the door for every district with taxes being paid under protest to seek redress. The proposal would be virtually revenue neutral and is of importance to the educational program of the Gardner School District; therefore, we urge your favorable consideration.

sb285/bsm

3/7/91 A9





Craig Grant Testimony Before The Senate Education Committee Thursday, March 7, 1991

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am Craig Grant and I represent Kansas-NEA. I appreciate this chance to speak to <u>SB 285</u>.

SB 285 is a localized bill to deal with a problem in USD 231. While we would like tax protest cases to be settled as quickly as possible, the fact is that it often takes a great deal of time to have these hearings. What should not happen in the meantime is for the school district and, especially, the students to suffer during that time period, SB 285 appears to be a logical solution to the problem.

Because of those reasons, Kansas-NEA supports <u>SB 285</u>. Thank you for listening to our concerns.

3/7/91 A10



MARCH 7, 1991

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

HEARING ON SENATE BILL 285

TESTIMONY OF GERRY RAY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL OFFICER JOHNSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

My name is Gerry Ray, representing the Johnson County Board of Commissioners and appearing today in support of Senate Bill 285.

The bill pertains to a temporary change in the definition of district wealth in the Gardner School District (USD 231). An appeal to the Board of Tax Appeals on several properties at the Johnson County Industrial Airport, has created a serious funding problem for the school district in that area. Until a decision is handed down from the Board of Tax Appeals, the valuation of those properties will remain a part of the valuation and will apply to the district wealth of the district. Thus they are receiving less in state aid and because the properties in question were considered exempt, no tax has been paid.

The County Commission feels strongly that the school district should not have to suffer from a problem in which they had no part. Senate Bill 285 would solve the problem on a temporary basis until a permanent solution is obtained. It is the hope of the County and the Airport Commissions that relief for the school district can be achieved soon.

The Committee is asked to recommend Senate Bill 285 favorable for passage.

EDUC 3/7/9/ A11

Proposed Amendment to Senate Bill No. 21

On page 1, in line 38, by striking "12" and inserting "six"; in line 39, by striking all after "who"; in line 40, by striking "high school"; also in line 40, after "state", by inserting "at the time of graduation from high school or within 12 months prior to graduation from high school";

On page 3, in line 9, by striking all after "who"; in line 10, by striking all before "were"; in line 11, before the comma, by inserting "at the time of graduation from high school or within 12 months prior to graduation from high school"