

Approved: 2/23/94
Date

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Dave Kerr at 1:30 p.m. on February 22, 1994 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Senator Anthony Hensley (Excused)

Committee staff present: Ben Barrett, Legislative Research Department
Avis Swartzman, Revisor of Statutes
LaVonne Mumert, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:
Mark Tallman, Kansas Association of School Boards
Connie Hubbell, State Board of Education
Gerald Henderson, United School Administrators of Kansas
Susan Chase, Kansas National Education Association

Others attending: See attached list

SB 785 - Inservice education opportunities act, evaluation, time, state aid

Staff explained that the statute on inservice education currently provides that the amount of state funds allocated to a school district for inservice shall be the lesser of: an amount which is equal to .25 of 1 percent of the general fund budget of the district or an amount equal to 50 percent of the actual expenses incurred by the district. SB 785 raises the .25 figure to .50. The bill also provides that the evaluation of inservice education programs shall include measures to assess the impact of the program on the teachers' instructional skills and pupils academic results. Districts must also describe how the program is aligned with the mission, academic focus and Quality Performance Accreditation (QPA) school improvement plan. SB 785 specifies that inservice education programs may occur any time during the school year.

In response to a question about limitations on when inservice education programs may be conducted, Connie Hubbell (State Board of Education) said the State Board has no rules or regulations with regard to when inservice can take place and that it is more a determination of the contract negotiations.

Mark Tallman, Kansas Association of School Boards, testified in support of SB 785 (Attachment No. 1). He said that increased inservice support is one of the top priorities of his association for this session. He noted that QPA will be successful only if adequate training is a part of the restructuring process. Mr. Tallman said that while they support the bill, very little will be accomplished unless increased funding accompanies this legislation.

Connie Hubbell, State Board of Education, spoke in favor of the bill (Attachment No. 2). She is supportive of the clarification that staff development may occur at any time during the school year. Ms. Hubbell agreed that the provisions that inservice education programs must be in alignment with QPA goals is essential for improved educational results. She said that another key element of inservice education is for the state to fund their portion and mentioned that the State Board is willing to expand the definition of inservice as supported by the Committee on School District Finance and Quality Performance.

Gerald Henderson, United School Administrators of Kansas, testified in favor of SB 785 (Attachment No. 3). He advised that full funding of the state inservice program is one of the top priorities of his association, as well. He discussed the importance of inservice education in achieving school improvement and expressed support for the bill's requirement that programs be tied to QPA improvement outcomes. Mr. Henderson observed that full funding of the inservice program is necessary in order for the program to be truly effective.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, Room 123-S Statehouse, at 1:30 p.m. on February 22, 1994.

Susan Chase, Kansas National Education Association, testified in support of the bill (Attachment No. 4). She said the bill provides additional flexibility to meet the needs of inservice education. Ms. Chase described some of the shortcomings of some inservice programs: lack of opportunity and assistance in incorporating concepts into the classroom and a tendency to "jump on a bandwagon" rather than assessing the needs of individual districts, buildings and individuals. Senator Tiahrt requested that Ms. Chase and her association review the language in the bill to ensure that individual teachers are involved in designing the inservice education program. Senator Downey remarked that it might be helpful to include language directing that inservice programs include time for implementation or integration of a support mechanism as a part of the program.

Chairman Kerr requested that staff provide to the Committee information on the fiscal impact of the bill as well as historical record behind the current statute, especially with regard to the limitations on expenditures.

SB 586 - Technical colleges, establishment

In discussing the bill, Chairman Kerr noted that he very much favors any efforts to contribute to a seamless education system but he has concerns about adding to existing problems of the number of community colleges and the distribution of funds. He provided an amendment for the Committee's consideration (Attachment No. 5) designed to encourage the study of merger possibilities before a school would be granted authority to become a technical college. Comments were made about the bill's potential to elevate the public perception of technical training. Concern was expressed about the possibility of increased costs and duplication of programs and the controversy relating to community college governance. Dale Dennis (State Department of Education) responded to questions regarding funding implications in mergers of community colleges and area vocational-technical schools. He advised that community colleges receive a 1.5:1 reimbursement for vocational and technical credit hours; and after a merger, they would receive 2:1. In addition, the merged institution has the option of retaining funding as an area school for selected courses.

Senator Langworthy made a motion that the minutes of the February 21, 1994 meeting be approved. Senator Emert seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for February 23, 1994.

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

TIME: 1:30 PLACE: 123-S DATE: 2/22/94

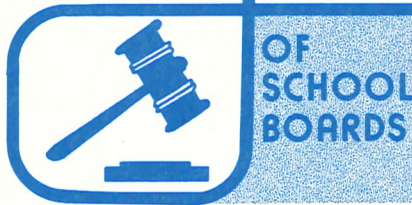
GUEST LIST

NAME

ADDRESS

ORGANIZATION

Cornie Huerf	Topeka	SCB of 20
Sharon B. Frieden	Topeka	KSBZ
Mark Tallman	Topeka	KASB
Alvin O'Brien	Topeka	U.S. 0501#
Elaine Frisbie		Div. of Budget
JOHN MARSHALL	TOPEKA	HARRIS NEWS SERVICE
Vivian West	Kincaid	USD 479
TED D. AYRES	TOPEKA	Regents Staff
ERIC L. Sexton	Wichita	Wichita State
Bennie Koch	Wichita	Wichita Chamber of Commerce
ALAN COBR	TOPEKA	ICAAVT
Robin Clements	Wichita	Wichita Public Schools
Ken Baker	Topeka	4th Enrollment USAs
Sumner Chase	Topeka	KUEA
Gerald Anderson	Topeka	USAs of KS
SHELBY SMITH	Wichita	" " "



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**Testimony on S.B. 785 Before the Senate Committee on Education
By Mark Tallman, Director of Governmental Relations**

February 22, 1994

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to appear today in support of S.B. 785.

The School District Finance and Quality Performance Committee has recommended increased support for inservice education has the top priority for the 1994 session. Our association has identified increased inservice support as one of the top three funding priorities for the session, along with increasing the base budget per pupil and fully funding special services. There is a general consensus that the education improvement promised by Quality Performance Accreditation can only succeed if teachers and administrators have the time and training to undertake major restructuring.

KASB has identified two strategies to address inservice needs. In the long term, we support retaining and expanding mandatory inservice days in the school calendar as part of an actual increase in the base budget per pupil. In the short term, we support expansion of the state inservice education program. (I would also note that KASB supports mandatory inservice requirements for school board members, a concept that passed the 1992 Legislature but was vetoed by the Governor.)

Expanding the inservice program is to a large extent an appropriations matter. In recent years, the program has not been fully funded under the current formula, which provides state aid of up to 50% of a district's improved inservice costs, to a maximum of one quarter of one percent of the general fund budget. Funding of the program has increased substantially over the past several years, but so has the number of districts participating. (School districts were required to have approved inservice programs under a 1992 statute.)

S.B. 785 would do three things. First, it would increase the maximum award a district could receive from one quarter of one percent to one half of one percent of the general fund budget. This means that districts currently at or near the maximum could continue to expand their programs and receive matching state funds. (Note: if all districts were eligible to receive this maximum award, it would require approximately \$10 million, compared to the \$3 million recommended by the Governor.)

Second, it would clarify that districts could receive state awards for inservice programs taking place at any time during a twelve month school year. Currently, the State Board of Education does not make awards for teacher salaries during the summer, due to limited appropriations.

Third, language is added to make evaluation requirements for inservice programs consistent with the staff development outcome, standards and indicators of Quality Performance Accreditation (Process Outcome Three). This would help focus inservice programs on QPA objectives.

We support each of these steps. But we would offer a caution that expanded inservice opportunities will be extremely limited if the state does not support its share of funding for these programs, especially if the base budget is not increased. School boards which cannot use the LOB will have great difficulty diverting resources for inservice from other commitments, including demands for salary increases. If school improvement is a priority, and inservice is vital to school improvement, the Legislature must make inservice a priority.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kansas State Board of Education

120 S.E. 10th Avenue, Topeka, Kansas 66612-1182

February 22, 1994

TO: Senate Education Committee

FROM: State Board of Education

SUBJECT: 1994 Senate Bill 785

My name is Connie Hubbell, Legislative Coordinator of the State Board of Education. It is a pleasure for me to appear before this Committee on behalf of the State Board.

Senate Bill 785 expands the State Inservice Education Opportunities Act to more accurately reflect the needs for staff development as a result of quality performance accreditation (QPA). This bill clarifies that staff development may take place anytime during the school year.

It is the State Board of Education's contention that more inservice should take place outside the "regular school term." Some districts have indicated a willingness to provide inservice staff development for their teachers in early August to better prepare teachers for effective instructional skills just prior to the beginning of the school year.

Changes in Senate Bill 785 which requires alignment of the inservice education program with the mission, academic focus, and QPA school improvement plan, are essential if school improvement efforts are to be effective.

Another significant point is made in Section 5 of the bill which increases one of the funding factors from .25 of one percent to .5 of one percent of the general fund budget. School districts would still be required to pay 50 percent of the cost within this limitation.

Another factor in the success of the inservice education program is the state funding their portion and the school districts funding their portion of the formula. An increase in the base state aid per pupil of \$3,600 would be helpful for many districts in expanding their inservice education programs.

If state funds are made available under the Inservice Education Opportunities Act, the State Board of Education would be very willing to expand the definition of inservice as supported by the Kansas Committee on School District Finance and Quality Performance (school finance monitoring committee).

(over)

Dale M. Dennis
Deputy/Assistant Commissioner
Division of Fiscal Services and Quality Control
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Sen. Ed.
2/22/94
Attachment 2

As the State Board implements the state assessment program, it is essential that teachers be provided inservice training to meet the needs of students as identified in the assessment instruments. As mentioned previously, success of the QPA school improvement plan depends upon the quality of the inservice staff development program. Keeping teachers and administrators up to date in the area of school improvement is essential if we are to be successful in the technology era.

The State Board of Education recommends that the Committee report Senate Bill 785 favorably for passage.



SB 785

Testimony presented before the Senate Committee on Education
by Gerald W. Henderson, Executive Director
United School administrators of Kansas
February 22, 1994

Mister Chairman and Members of the Committee:

United School Administrators of Kansas is focusing on three issues relating to school finance during the 1994 Session. These issues are:

1. Raising the Base State Aid Per Pupil (BSAPP) to at least \$3800.
2. Funding special education at 100% of excess costs.
3. Fully funding the state inservice program.

We are therefore in full support of **SB 785**, realizing that the funding will we dealt with through the appropriations process.

The committee heard last session, during this past summer, and again this fall, that the success of school improvement initiatives including Quality Performance Accreditation is centered on the ability of school districts to plan and deliver appropriate inservice opportunities for the professional staff. You heard further from the teachers from Hoxie, Hesston, Ft. Scott and others that successes in collaborative decision making, curriculum design and alignment, assessment design, alternative teaching strategies, and other pedagogical issues were dependent on the amount of help those teachers received in learning how to do these important tasks.

Sen. Ed.
2/22/94
Attachment 3

USA fully supports the language in **SB 785** which ties the district inservice program to the improvement outcomes identified under Quality Performance Accreditation. As difficult as we all try to make this entire issue, and the process is complicated, the foundation for school improvement is still pretty simple. Agree on what you want for a particular population, document through data collection what you know about that population, then determine what you need to do to bridge the gap between what you want and what you know. If you don't know how to do what needs to be done, then your inservice program should be designed to provide those skills. As we read **SB 785**, that is what it provides.

We encourage the committee to act favorably on **SB 785**.

LEG/SB785



KANSAS NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION / 715 W. 10TH STREET / TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612-1686

Susan Chase Testimony before
Senate Education Committee
Tuesday, February 22, 1994

Thank you Mr. Chairman. I am Susan Chase and I represent Kansas NEA. Thank you for allowing me to address the committee on SB 785 regarding the state inservice opportunities act.

Kansas NEA has been a strong supporter of inservice education. Our involvement with the inservice education opportunities act began with our development of the Kansas plan, which included inservice education that became Governor Carlin's education plan. We continue to support a strong inservice plan with the flexibility to meet the needs of individual districts, buildings, and employees.

We see SB 785 as a way of providing additional flexibility. We urge your support of this bill.

Thank you for your consideration.

New (c)

Revised (d)

- (c) The resolution adopted under subsection (b) shall be accompanied by an analysis, including supporting data, which documents how the state's educational interests will be better served by the designation of the area vocational school or area vocational-technical school as a technical college. Such analyses shall include an appraisal of how the benefits to the state's educational system would be furthered by merger of the area vocational school or area vocational-technical school with a community college, together with the rationale for the determination that designation of the school as a technical college better furthers the state's education interests than merger with a community college.
- (d) If a resolution proposing the establishment of a technical college is approved as provided in subsection (b), the proposal shall be submitted to the state board of education for its consideration and approval or disapproval. The state board shall consider the proposal and make a determination concerning whether establishment of the technical college is in the best interest of the state's educational system. In so doing, the state board shall evaluate whether the state's educational interest would be better served by a merger between the applicant area vocational school or area vocational-technical school and a community college than by the proposal of technical school college designation. If the State Board determines that a merger between the area vocational school or area vocational-technical school and a community college would better serve the educational interest of the state, or, for some other reason, determines approval of the proposal should not be given, the state board shall deny approval of the proposal. Otherwise, the state board shall issue an order establishing the technical college.