MINUTES OF THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dwayne Umbarger at 1:35p.m. on February 9, 2004 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator Anthony Hensley (excused)

Committee staff present:

Theresa Kiernan, Office of the Revisor of Statutes Judy Steinlicht, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Dale Dennis, Deputy Commissioner, Kansas State Board of Education

Others attending:

See Attached List

SB 346-Schools; virtual courses or schools; out-of-state pupils not counted for enrollment purposes

Dale Dennis, Deputy Commissioner, State Department of Education, explained that **SB346** would provide that a pupil enrolled in a virtual school in a school district who is not a resident of the state will not be counted in the school district's enrollment. It is already the policy not to count nonresident students who attend virtual schools in Kansas for state aid purposes. **SB346** would make this policy statutory. Mr. Dennis explained that at least one school has a large number of nonresident virtual students and even some from other countries. It could get very expensive if all of these students were counted. It was never the intent to pay for nonresident students and Mr. Dennis advised that the State Board of Education felt obligated to bring this to the attention of the Committee. (Attachment 1)

SB 359-School districts; alternative schools and programs; enrollment

Dale Dennis continued with an explanation of **SB359**. Currently the official enrollment count for school district funding purposes is September 20. Many alternative school students are part-time because they are enrolled in programs that allow them to attend at their own pace. Some school districts require part-time students to attend school all day September 20 in order to inflate their enrollment count for school funding purposes. **SB359** would spread the enrollment count for alternative school students over an entire week, the purpose being to generate a more accurate count based on actual part-time attendance. Dale provided a handout that showed enrollment somewhat higher on the 20th, as much as 50% in some cases. If a student is part time, he is to be counted as a partial student and the school receives funding as such. Again, the Board felt obligated to make the legislature aware. (Attachment 2)

Senator Schodorf made a motion to recommend **SB346** favorably for passage. Seconded by Senator Downey. Motion carried.

Senator Vratil made a motion to amend SB359 changing the word "alternate" to "alternative" on page 3, line 13. Seconded by Senator Downey. Motion carried.

<u>Senator Vratil made a motion to recommend SB359 as amended favorably for passage. Seconded by Senator Bunten. Vote was 9 yeas, 1 nay. Motion carried.</u>

Meeting adjourned 2:13 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for February 10, 2004.

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE GUEST LIST DATE - 2.9-04

| NAME | REPRESENTING | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----|
| Cone Sieve | Keern i Assoc | |
| Brady Kickhaefer | Sen. Teichman | |
| Janna Riffel | Holton High School | |
| Cody Hill | Holton High School | |
| Jason Carison, AgEd Instructor | - Kansus Association of Ag Educator | rs |
| Clint Black | Kansas FFA Association | |
| Denise Cipt | U.S.D. # 500 | |
| Mark Tallman | K.A.S.B. | |
| Shari Hand, Derby H.S. | HS. assn Careate & Tech Ed | |
| UsF- Hardison | Little Government Relations | |
| Diane Gjerstad | Wicheter Public Schads | |
| Juli-Watts | Kansus form Bureau | |
| TEIGHT FORSYTH | KNCA | |
| Val DI Fever | SPE | |
| KENT HORN | 454 | |
| Veryl Peter | KS. St. Dept. of Ed | |
| Jerry R. Seim | Saling Area Tech | |
| Strat Little | Shave Mission 512 | |
| Amanda Lindahl | Chapman High School (FFA) | |
| Sarah Sexton | Chapman FFA Chapman FFA | |
| Cynthia Hoffman | Chapman FFA | |
| | | |
| | | |



February 9, 2004

TO:

Senate Education Committee

FROM:

Dale M. Dennis, Deputy

Commissioner of Education

SUBJECT:

2004 Senate Bill 346

Senate Bill 346 provides that pupils enrolled in a virtual school in a unified school district that is not a resident of the state will not be counted in the school district's enrollment.

School districts have been very cooperative in the past not counting out-of-state virtual students in their enrollments as specified in the state audit guide.

A statute would clarify any potential problems which could be very expensive to the State of Kansas.

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Smate Education 2-9-04 Attachment 1



Kansas State Department of Education

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

February 9, 2004

TO:

Senate Education Committee

FROM:

Dale M. Dennis, Deputy

Commissioner of Education

SUBJECT:

2004 Senate Bill 359

Senate Bill 359 amends the procedures for counting part-time students enrolled in alternative programs/schools to use the week of September 20 for determining the FTE enrollment versus September 20.

Most school districts have been very cooperative and tried to follow the intent of the law which provides that September 20 is the official count date. There have been instances where alternative schools alter their schedules in order to increase enrollment. We believe it would be more equitable to the students and school districts if the week of September 20 were used for the official enrollment count rather than September 20.

This provision would only apply to alternative programs/schools that consist of primarily parttime students. These programs/schools serve a great purpose and provide outstanding programs for students who are not able to attend school full-time.

785-296-6338 (TTY) www.ksde.org Senate Education 2-9-04 A Hachment 2

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| J. | 2 | September, 2003 | | | | | | | | | | | | Octo | ber, : | Days with | | | | | | | | | | | |
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