

MINUTES OF THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jean Schodorf at 1:30 p.m. on March 9, 2011, in Room 152-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Sharon Wenger, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Eunice Peters, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Dale Dennis, Deputy Commissioner, Kansas Department of Education
Dorothy Gerhardt, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Diane Goddard, Vice Provost for Administration and Finance and Interim CIO, University of Kansas
Dr. Andy Tompkins, President and CEO, Kansas Board of Regents (written only)
Sue Gamble, Schools for the Blind and Deaf

Others attending:

See attached list.

Approval of Minutes

Senator King moved to approve the minutes of March 2, March 3, and March 7, 2011 as written. The motion was seconded by Senator Owens. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Hearing on **HB 2020 - State educational institution housing system funds**

Eunice Peters, Office of the Revisor of Statutes, provided a brief overview of the provisions in **HB 2020**. This legislation in **HB 2020** would allow revenues from rents, boarding fees, other charges related to university student housing, as well as interest earnings on specific funds at state universities to go to the housing system suspense fund, as is the current practice, or directly to the housing system operations fund as requested by the university. Currently, universities may transfer funding from their housing system suspense funds to operations as needed. **HB 2020** would have no fiscal effect.

Diane Goddard, Vice Provost for Administration and Finance and Interim CIO, University of Kansas, appeared before the committee in support of **HB 2020** (Attachment 1). Current law requires all payments received for rents and other charges in operating the housing system first be deposited in a housing suspense fund and then transferred to a housing operations fund. Expenses for operating the housing system are then charged to the operations fund. The proposed legislation allows universities the option of depositing funds first in the suspense fund or in the operations fund.

Also providing testimony in support of **HB 2020** was Dr. Andy Tompkins, President and CEO, Kansas Board of Regents (Attachment 2) (written only) stating the change in legislation would provide options to the universities affected and would result in increased operational efficiencies.

Following a brief committee discussion, the hearing was closed.

It was moved by Senator Teichman, seconded by Senator Schmidt, that the committee recommend **HB 2020** favorable for passage. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Hearing on **HB 2078 - State schools for the deaf and blind; authorization to contract for training programs year round**

Eunice Peters, Office of the Revisor of Statutes, provided a brief overview of the provisions in **HB 2078**. Under current law, the School for the Blind is permitted to conduct training programs only during the summer; however, the School for the Deaf can hold training sessions at any time during the year. **HB 2078** would allow the School for the Blind to also conduct training programs year round.

According to the School for the Blind, enactment of **HB 2078** would have no fiscal effect. All training

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the Senate Education Committee at 1:30 p.m. on March 9, 2011, in Room 152-S of the Capitol.

programs are financed by fees imposed on those accessing the services.

Sue Gamble, Information Officer for the schools, provided brief testimony in support of the proposed legislation. She stated this change provided in **HB 2078** would meet requests for services year-round from the School for the Blind.

Following committee discussion, the hearing on **HB 2078** was closed.

It was moved by Senator Schmidt, seconded by Senator Umbarger, that the committee recommend **HB 2078** favorable for passage. Motion carried on a voice vote.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 10, 2011.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

DATE: March 9, 2011

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Senate Education Committee

Hearing on H.B. 2020

March 9, 2011

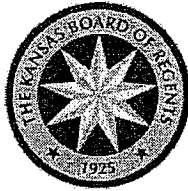
Testimony of Diane Goddard
Vice Provost for Administration and Finance
and Interim CIO
University of Kansas

Chairwoman Shodorf and Vice Chairman Vratil and the Ranking Minority member Hensley, I am Diane Goddard, Vice Provost for Administration and Finance and Interim CIO for the University of Kansas and I am here to testify in support of H.B. 2020.

The University of Kansas appreciates the Committee's attention to this legislation which is rather technical in nature.

K.S.A. 76-762 creates certain funds in the student housing system. It further requires that all payments received for rents and other charges in operating the housing system first be deposited in a housing suspense fund and then transferred to a housing operations fund. Expenses for operating the housing system are then charged to the operations fund. The proposed legislation allows universities the option of depositing funds first in the suspense fund or in the operations fund. Some universities prefer to deposit the funds directly into the operations fund, thereby saving the transfer.

I would be happy to answer any questions.



KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS

March 9, 2011

Senator Jean Schodorf, Chairwoman
Senate Education Committee
Statehouse, Room 236-E
Topeka, KS 66612

Senator Anthony Hensley, Ranking Member
Senate Education Committee
Statehouse, Room 345-S
Topeka, KS 66612

Dear Chairwoman Schodorf and Ranking Member Hensley:

On behalf of the Kansas Board of Regents, I write to you in support of House Bill 2020, legislation that would amend current statutes to make the state universities' use of the Housing Suspense Fund optional rather than mandatory. This legislation was unanimously approved by the House on February 7.

Statutes currently require the six state universities to send rent and boarding fees to the State Treasurer for deposit in the Housing Suspense Fund before those dollars can be transferred to the Housing Operations Fund. House Bill 2020 would allow rent and boarding fees to be directly deposited into the Housing Operations Fund rather than the money flowing through the Housing Suspense Fund to the Housing Operations Fund. Three of the state universities (FHSU, KU, and WSU) would prefer the proposed "optional" method, while the other three (ESU, KSU, and PSU) have indicated they prefer the status quo. House Bill 2020 would satisfy the needs of all six state universities by providing the option and would result in increased operational efficiencies.

Thank you for your consideration of House Bill 2020.

Sincerely,

Dr. Andy Tompkins
President & CEO

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