

MINUTES OF THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jean Schodorf at 1:30 p.m. on March 17, 2011, in Room 152-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:
Susan Wagle - excused

Committee staff present:

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

Others attending:
See attached list.

Approval of Minutes

Senator Owens moved to approve the minutes of March 8, March 9, March 10, March 14, March 15, and March 16, 2011 as written. The motion was seconded by Senator Teichman. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Committee discussion was held on **SB 75-Dyslexia and other reading problems; requiring certain testing.** Following a number of comments regarding the problems and need for the legislation, it was moved by Senator Schmidt that the Chair of the Senate Education Committee be directed to address a letter to the Commissioner of the Kansas State Department of Education, the Kansas State Board of Education, and all those who previously testified at the hearing held on SB 75 that all interested parties work together toward developing a solution as well as review the contents of House Resolution 6021. Motion seconded by Senator Abrams. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Committee discussion next turned to **SB 111-Eliminating minimum and maximum calculation of special education state aid.** Comments from committee members included the fact that passing the legislation as written would effectively do away with the changes made in **SB 359** passed last year by the legislature before they actually went into effect.

It was moved by Senator Teichman that on page 3, line 27, 2011-2012 be stricken and 2012-2013 be inserted; on page 4, line 25, 2013 be stricken and 2014 be inserted; and all strikethroughs be eliminated creating a **Substitute for SB 111**; and recommend this **Substitute for SB 111** favorable for passage. The motion was seconded by Senator Schmidt. Motion carried on a voice vote.

SB 202-School districts; purpose of state aid to public schools was briefly discussed by the committee. Senator Abrams stated he had only introduced the bill to begin the dialog defining a "suitable" education.

Committee discussion was next held on **HB 2004-School districts; defining non-resident pupil.** Jason Long, Office of the Revisor of Statutes, provided a brief summary of the legislation. Substitute for **HB 2004** would change the school finance law to redefine non-resident pupil. The bill would define a non-resident pupil as a student or member of the student's family who lives 2.5 or more miles from the attendance center the student would attend in the district in which the student resides. Current law defines a non-resident pupil as a student or member of the student's family who lives ten miles or more from the resident attendance center. In addition, the bill would clarify that provisions of the bill would not apply to school districts located in Johnson, Sedgwick, Shawnee, or Wyandotte counties.

It was moved by Senator Vratil that **HB 2004** be tabled, seconded by Senator Owens. Motion carried on a voice vote.

A summary of **HB 2191**-Concerning school districts; relating to teachers, was provided by Jason Long, Office of the Revisor of Statutes. **HB 2191** would allow school districts to offer employment contracts to teachers for up to two additional years at the end of the teacher's probationary period, thus extending until

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the Senate Education Committee at 1:30 p.m. on March 17, 2011, in Room 152-S of the Capitol.

the sixth year of employment the ability of the teacher to attain due process rights. In addition, the bill would require school districts to annually file a report with the State Board of Education, and the House and Senate education committees, with information regarding numbers of teachers offered due process rights. The provisions of the bill related to the additional two years of probationary employment and the reporting requirements would expire on July 1, 2016.

A balloon amendment was offered by Mark Desetti, KNEA, stating basically that a teacher's performance evaluations should support the decision to offer the teacher a contract pursuant to this legislation and that a plan of assistance be written to address those areas of the performance evaluation which form the basis for the decision to offer such a contract to the teacher. The teacher is also given the right to review any plan of assistance and to have the plan reviewed by a mentor or another teacher employed by the school district, chosen by the teacher.

It was moved by Senator Abrams that **HB 2191** be amended to include the balloon amendment offered; motion seconded by Senator Teichman. Motion carried by a voice vote.

It was moved by Senator Vratil that **HB 2191** also be amended on page 2, line 30, following the word fourth inserting "*year or a fourth*"; seconded by Senator Hensley. Motion carried on a voice vote.

It was moved by Senator Abrams that the committee recommend **HB 2191**, as amended, favorable for passage; seconded by Senator Teichman. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Senator Marshall requested he be allowed to introduce the pages from his district serving in the Senate today.

Chair Schodorf closed the meeting thanking staff and committee members for their work this session. Senator Vratil offered a special thanks to the Chair for her work also.

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

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

DATE: March 17, 2011

[illegible]