MINUTES OF THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jean Schodorf at 1:30 p.m. on January 25, 2011, in Room 152-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:
>   Senator Anthony Hensley – excused
>   Senator Bob Marshall - 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

Conferees appearing before the Committee:
>   Dr. Matthew Ladner, Vice President for Research, Goldwater Institute
>   Jim Bingham, Assoc. Vice Chancellor for Information Resources, University of Kansas Medical
>   Center
>   Sue Peterson, Kansas State University (written only)
>   Michael D. Erickson, Emporia State University (written only)
>   Dr. Andy Tompkins, President & CEO, Kansas Board of Regents (written only)

Others attending:
>   See attached list.

Presentation: Demography/Destiny; Florida's K-12 Reform Lessons for the Nation

Dr. Matthew Ladner, Vice President for Research with the Goldwater Institute, presented a report (Attachment 1) on his study of the education system in the nation entitled "The Nation's Report Card". The presentation centered on studies of schools and test scores in reading in Florida beginning in the 1998 through the most current available.

Hearing on **SB 8 – Defining information technology project for state universities under the control of the state board of regents**

Jason Long, Office of the Revisor of Statutes, presented a brief summary of **SB 8**. This proposed legislation would change the definition of "Information Technology Project" related to state universities under the control of the Board of Regents. The bill would increase the minimum cost from $250,000 to $1.0 million or more, including $500,000 or more from external sources, before approval would be required by the Executive Chief Information Technology Officer in the Department of Administration. The bill would also exclude infrastructure projects at the state universities from the definition of Information Technology Project. The Board of Regents notes that reducing the reporting burden would result in reduced overhead costs.

Mr. Jim Bingham, Associate Vice Chancellor for Information Resources at the University of Kansas Medical Center (Attachment 2), appeared before the committee in support of the proposed legislation. He stated that with this legislation the ceiling for state involvement in Regents' IT planning processes would be raised from $250,000 to $1,000,000 and would exempt from the process entirely "infrastructure projects". Infrastructure projects are those focused on replacing or upgrading existing computer hardware and software as well as the incidental IT and telecommunications costs associated with new building construction.

Written testimony in support of **SB 8** was received from Kansas State University (Attachment 3), Emporia State University (Attachment 4), and Dr. Andy Tompkins, President & CEO, Kansas Board of Regents (Attachment 5).

The hearing on **SB 8** was continued to a later date.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 26, 2011.

The meeting was adjourned at 02:30 p.m.