

Monday, February 13, 2017

**To: Senator Molly Baumgardner, Chair and the Members of the Senate Education Committee**

**From: Gary Musselman, KSHSAA Executive Director**

**RE: Senate Bill #145**

Last March the Kansas State High School Activities Association provided written testimony expressing neutrality on SB#464 which was identical to the current SB#145. We explained the KSHSAA had not requested the bill's introduction. In its written testimony the KSHSAA provided information explaining that a **13 member Classification Study Committee** had been established and was actively involved in a complete review of the current method of classifying KSHSAA member schools. That Committee noted those efforts and in our view, correctly supported the KSHSAA to continue its work in progress.

Today I have presented your Committee with the roster of that study committee and **summaries of all eight (8) meetings** it has conducted in the last year. Additionally, **you have before you two final recommendations the Committee and Executive Board have vetted extensively through seven regional meetings conducted in late October.**

**Both recommendations are scheduled for a vote on April 28<sup>th</sup> by the 75 members of the KSHSAA's Board of Directors** (the KSHSAA's legislative body). If approved by the Board of Directors, member schools will vote on each recommendation separately, in accordance with **KSHSAA Bylaw Article XII** which is provided in the handout material and electronically. The yellow handout provides extensive details for all KSHSAA sponsored activities.

All work and activities of the KSHSAA Classification Study Committee took place in open meetings with public forums attended by representatives of member schools and the public, including the proponents of SB #145. All activities of the Committee have been posted on the KSHSAA website to ensure access by the public and distributed to all KSHSAA member school superintendents, principals, as well as activity and athletic directors. Local boards of education have had access to all information as well.

In its January 11<sup>th</sup> meeting, the KSHSAA Executive Board received a presentation from Jeff Hines, Assistant Principal of Paola High School, and participated in 90 minutes of extensive discussion on the topic of school classification. Mr. Hines expressed his intent to seek introduction of the bill you have before you and sought the endorsement and support of the Executive Board.

**As a result of the discussion at that meeting, the KSHSAA Executive Board adopted the following position statement:**

**"The KSHSAA Executive Board expresses no opposition to the proposed revision of K.S.A. 72-130, Section a (5) which states the KSHSAA shall: *"Establish a system for the classification of member high schools ~~according to student attendance.~~"***

**The Executive Board has directed me to provide your committee with the minutes of their January 11, 2017 meeting and the complete details of the two recommendations proposed by the Study Committee and approved by the Executive Board. If adopted, these recommendations will significantly change procedures currently used in classifying KSHSAA member schools in the 2018-19 school year. (Current schedules and event contracts exist and transition time is required)**

**The KSHSAA respectfully requests that its current legislative process be allowed to reach its conclusion in accordance with the bylaws of the organization.**