

Approved: _____
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Representative Ralph Tanner at 9:00 a.m. on February 22, 2000 in Room 313-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: A quorum was present

Committee staff present: Avis Swartzman, Revisor of Statutes
Ben Barrett, Legislative Research Department
Carolyn Rampey, Legislative Research Department
Renae Jefferies, Revisor of Statutes
Linda Taylor, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Representative Kent Glasscock
Craig Grant, KNEA
Diane Gjerstaad, Wichita Public Schools
Representative Deena Horst
John Federico
Kathleen Lowman
Larry Patrick

Others attending: See Attached List

Hearings on **HB 2797 - School personnel, certification, state board of education authorized to receive information** and **HB 2799 - Kansas mentor teacher program** were opened.

Representative Kent Glasscock appeared before the committee as a proponent of **HB 2797** and **HB 2799**. (Attachment 1) He stated that he believes both of these bills work to achieve a single goal—bolstering teacher quality. He also stated that these two bills take steps to better teaching in Kansas classrooms.

Craig Grant appeared before the committee to present comments on **HB 2799**. He stated that while the KNEA agrees with the concept of the bill, the problem they see is that it takes a one-size-fits-all approach to a program that has to meet the needs of different local school districts.

Diane Gjerstaad appeared before the committee as a proponent of **HB 2799**.(Attachment 2) She stated that mentoring is fundamental in the professional development of a first year teacher. She urged the committee to pass this bill favorably.

Hearings on **HB 2797** and **HB 2799** were closed.

Hearings on **HB 2810 - School districts, definition of juvenile facility, grants of state moneys** were opened.

Representative Deena Horst appeared before the committee as a proponent of **HB 2810**. (Attachment 3) She stated that, although the existing facilities are already funded through legislative grants, a new facility in Atchison will be opening in March; they will need to access the grant at the April counting period for those students who will be arriving in that program, thus the need for legislation to take effect after publication in the Kansas Register. She also presented to the committee written testimony provided by Larry Patrick, Assistant Director of the Smoky Hill Education Service Center, and Kathleen Lowman, Director of Special Services for the Atchison Schools (Attachments 4 and 5)

Diane Gjerstaad addressed the committee on **HB 2810**, requesting that they delete the reference on page 6, line 10 to “Charter Wichita Behavior Health System” because this facility has recently filed for bankruptcy. (Attachment 2)

Hearings on **HB 2810** were closed.

Hearings on **HB 2847 - School safety and security, pupil information reporting requirements** were opened.

Representative Horst appeared before the committee to explain the bill and the history behind the change she is proposing to the School Safety and Security Act. (Attachment 6) She stated that she has developed some language that will address both her concerns that employees be informed and the concerns of the KASB that Superintendents be given some discretion in cases where the student is not a safety risk or if the student is a safety risk an emphasis be made on the fact that the Superintendent may continue to report to employees that student's previous behavior. She urged passage of the bill.

Diane Gjerstaad appeared before the committee as an opponent of the bill. She stated that this is an unrealistic layer of data collection, and it should be kept in mind that these are children, not adults.

Hearings on **HB 2847** were closed.

Representative Crow moved to amend **HB 2810** on page 4, striking from line 11 to the reference to the Salvation Army, removing the two closed facilities. The motion was seconded by Representative Lloyd. The motion passed.

Representative Benlon moved to pass **HB 2810** as amended. Representative Horst seconded the motion. The motion passed.