

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Clay Aurand at 9:00 A.M. on January 24, 2007 in Room 313-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Benjamin Hodge- absent

Committee staff present:

Sharon Wenger, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Michele Alishahi, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Ashley Holm, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes
Janet Henning, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Dr. Andy Tompkins, Chair, At-Risk Council
Katrin Osterhaus, Auditor, Legislative Division of Post Audit

The Chairman asked for any bill introductions.

Representative Colloton advised Committee members she was requesting a “clean-up” bill concerning grants for the payment of costs relating to attaining endorsement as an ESOL teacher. Representative Colloton moved the motion which was seconded by Representative Storm. The motion carried on a voice vote.

A motion was made by Representative Colloton to change the current bilingual weighting in the school finance act from a full-time equivalent weighting with contact hours to headcount and adjusted to 0.2 from the present 0.395 weight. The motion was seconded by Representative Craft and carried on a voice vote.

Representative Colloton advised the Committee that those districts who are spending “below-the-average” in their enrollment category would be authorized to adopt an LOB in excess of the state prescribed percentage. Representative Colloton moved the motion which was seconded by Representative Storm. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Representative Storm asked for a bill which would require school districts to shut off vending machines during the school day. Representative Storm moved the motion which was seconded by Representative Horst. The motion carried on a voice vote.

The Chairman introduced Dr. Andy Tompkins, Chair, At-Risk Council, who informed Committee members of the background and committee activities, and recommendations of the At-Risk Council. (On file with Kansas Legislative Research)

Katrin Osterhaus gave a summary of the Legislative Post Audit’s findings, conclusions, and recommendations from their completed performance audit, *K-12 Education: Reviewing Free-Lunch Student Counts Used as the Basis for At-Risk Funding, Part I and Part II*. (Attachments #1) (Publications on file with Legislative Post Audit)

A question and answer discussion followed the presentation.

Chairman Aurand adjourned the meeting at 10:40 AM. The next meeting will be held Thursday, January 25, 2007