

MINUTES OF THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Senator Dwayne Umbarger at 1:35 p.m. on February 13, 2003 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present: Kathie Sparks, Legislative Research
Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes
Judy Steinlicht, Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes
Jack Hawn, KPERS
Jim Edwards, KASB
Barbara Hinton, Legislative Division of Post Audit
Senator Bill Bunten

Others attending: See attached list

SB60--Employment of certain teachers following retirement

Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes, explained amendments to **SB60** that were discussed at the February 12, 2003 Committee meeting. This bill with the proposed amendments would allow school districts to rehire teachers or superintendents in their same district after their retirement and not be subject to the \$15,000 salary cap in the current law and it does nothing to effect the application of tenure or due process. (Attachment 1)

A motion was made by Senator Schodorf to adopt the amendments to **SB60** as drafted by staff. Seconded by Senator Teichman. Motion carried.

Chairman Umbarger introduced a group of people from Kansas Farm Bureau who were visiting the Capitol and the Committee meeting today.

Jack Hawn, KPERS, was introduced to explain the fiscal impact of **SB60**. The impact of the bill was estimated because it is unknown the number of people that may take advantage of this bill. It is estimated that if 100 teachers take advantage, the cost could be \$8.20 million and 500 could cost as much as \$38.7 million. (Attachment 2)

Senator Downey expressed a concern on **SB60** with the 2 tiers of employees the bill creates. She doesn't understand why a teacher would want to stay in his own district with no contract rights when he could travel a few miles to another district and have all his rights protected. Her proposed amendment would remove lines 33 thru 37 on page 3 and remove lines 10 and 11 on page 6. Another point was raised as to

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whether these teachers should continue to contribute to KPERS. A number of concerns remain and it was the consensus of the Committee to study the bill and the amendments prior to further action.

SB5--School Districts; funds

Jim Edwards, KASB, was scheduled to comment on three bills scheduled for hearing today; **SB5**, **SB39** and **SB121**. KASB believes that it is premature to make comments as an opponent or proponent to these bills until the Task Force on School District Budget makes its report. KASB is not opposed to the new funds on **SB5**, however, there are other bills in front of the Legislature suggesting that districts reduce the number of funds. On **SB39**, KASB supports providing patrons with information that clarifies budgets as well as provides accountability. **SB121** makes major changes that may or may not be part of the task force report, therefore, KASB feels that we need to hear the report from the task force prior to any action. (Attachment 3)

SB39--School district budgeting of certain moneys

Senator Bill Buntin offered support for **SB39** to provide that schools would be required to budget Federal funds. (Attachment 4)

Barbara Hinton, Legislative Division of Post Audit, provided background information on **SB39** and her testimony only relates to Section 3, Lines 17 thru 20. School districts are required to spend all the revenues available to them in their major operating funds, whether or not they spend the funds that year. The requirement forces districts to inflate their projected expenditure which distorts budget-year information, and it makes it impossible to determine a district's actual spending plans. (Attachment 5) Post audit presented an amendment. (Attachment 6)

SB121--School district budgets

Senator Bill Buntin, in view of the time limitation, gave the Committee a brief background of his efforts to establish a simplified school budget. (Attachment 7) Chairman Umbarger assured Senator Buntin that **SB121** would be rescheduled for hearings at a later date.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for February 17, 2003 at 1:30 p.m. in Room 123S.