

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE EDUCATION BUDGET COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Joe McLeland at 1:30 P.M. on March 13, 2007 in Room 514-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Bob Grant- excused

Committee staff present:

Audrey Dunkel, Kansas Legislative Research
Michele Alishahi, Kansas Legislative Research
Theresa Kiernan, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Dee Heideman, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Ray Merrick, House Majority Leader
Diane Duffy, Vice President Finance, Kansas Board of Regents

Others attending:

See attached list.

Hearing on **HB 2533** Colleges and universities; non-resident tuition.

The Chair opened the hearing on **HB 2533** and asked Theresa Kiernan to give an overview of the bill.

Ray Merrick a proponent to this bill stated that Kansans are upside down on the cost of higher education. He stated this is bad policy that encourages our students to look elsewhere for education while providing a \$3000 discount for students from outside Kansas. Our students should not be expected to subsidize out of state students' tuition, or the backlog of deferred maintenance (Attachment #1).

As an opponent, Diane Duffy, testified the approach presented in this bill would significantly hamper the Board's ability to set tuition appropriate to the missions and programs of the state universities. Her testimony contained a table that showed the smaller state universities would suffer the impact of **HB 2533** the most. (Attachment #2).

The hearing on **HB 2533** was closed by the Chair.

The Chair asked for a motion on **HB 2175** - School districts; centrally-maintained accounting and reporting system. Representative Gordon made a motion to amend the effective date of implementation of **HB 2175**. It was seconded by Representative O'Neal. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Another motion was made by Representative Gordon and seconded by Representative O'Neal to pass **HB 2175** favorable as amended for passage. The motion was voted on by the committee and the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned by the chair at 2:55 PM.

The next meeting of the House Education Budget Committee is scheduled for Monday, March 19, 2007 in Room 514-S.