

MINUTES OF THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jean Schodorf at 1:30 p.m. on January 27, 2009, in Room 545-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator Anthony Hensley- absent
Senator Ruth Teichman- excused

Committee staff present:

Martha Dorsey, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Sharon Wenger, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Theresa Kiernan, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Matt Sterling, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Dorothy Gerhardt, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Richard Samaniego, Kansas Association of Technical Colleges
Theresa Kiernan, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Dr. Tom Burke, President, Kansas City, Kansas Community College
Dave Reist, President, Highland Community College
John Vratil, Senator

Others attending:

See attached list.

The meeting began with the introduction of special guests including the “shadow” of Senator Owens, Bailey Seward, an eighth grade student at Oxford Middle School in the Blue Valley School District, Overland Park. Senator Vratil also introduced his “shadow”, Hannah Baird and her father Jim, from Overland Park. Hannah is a student at Harmony Middle School.

Introduction of Bills

Senator Tim Owens requested the introduction of legislation with regard to the standardization of attendance days in K-12 across the state.

Senator Umbarger moved to introduce the bill, seconded by Senator Steineger. The motion carried.

Richard Samaniego, Kansas Association of Technical Colleges, requested introduction of legislation authorizing local boards of control of technical colleges to designate the name. (Attachment 1)

Senator Vratil moved to introduce the bill, seconded by Senator Owens. The motion carried.

Hearing on SB 11 - Community colleges; acquisition of real property within service area.

Theresa Kiernan, Office of the Revisor of Statutes, appeared before the committee and provided a brief explanation of **SB 11**. She stated this bill would do two things: 1. require the Board of Regents to establish, by policy, the boundaries of the service area of each community college; and, 2. would authorize the community colleges to acquire land or land and improvements outside the community college district but within their service area.

Dr. Tom Burke, President, Kansas City, Kansas Community College (Attachment 2), testified in support of such legislation. Dave Reist, President, Highland Community College, also testified in support of the legislation recalling several instances where this would have benefitted the college without affecting the tax base of the county. Written testimony in support of the legislation was submitted on behalf of the Board of Regents. (Attachment 3).

The committee requested Kip Peterson, Board of Regents, provide additional information regarding service areas and the reason for the policy change, for the next meeting.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the Senate Education Committee at 1:30 p.m. on January 27, 2009, in Room 545-N of the Capitol.

There were no other conferees to appear before the Committee.

The hearing on **SB 11** was closed.

Hearing on SB 40 - At-risk education council; repeal of

John Vratil, Senator, (Attachment 4) presented testimony in support of **SB 40** which seeks to remove from state statute outdated language relating to the At-risk Education Council established in 2005. The statute establishing the formation of the Council also established a termination date of June 30, 2007. As the Council no longer exists, **SB 40** removes the outdated enabling language from state statutes.

The hearing on **SB 40** was closed.

Hearing on SB 41 - School districts; repeal of archaic statutes relating to transfers of funds and property; disorganized districts

John Vratil, Senator, (Attachment 5) presented testimony in support of **SB 41** which would repeal outdated and unnecessary provisions concerning certain school districts.

The hearing on **SB 41** was closed.

Senator Umbarger moved to recommend SB 40 and SB 41 favorable for passage, seconded by Senator Owens. The motion carried.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 28, 2009, subject to the length of the Senate Session.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.