

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Senator Dwayne Umbarger at 1:12 p.m. on March 28, 2001 in Room 245-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present: Avis Swartzman, Revisor of Statutes
 Ben Barrett, Legislative Research Department
 Carolyn Rampey, Legislative Research Department
 Judy Steinlicht, Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Avis Swartzman, Revisor of Statutes
 Ben Barrett, Legislative Research Department
 Chris Cartwright, Legislative Research Department

Others attending: See Attached List

Substitute for HB2051--School Finance

Written testimony is attached from Craig Grant, KNEA, (Attachment 1); Karl Peterjohn, Kansas Taxpayers Network, (Attachment 2) and Bob Corkins, Kansas Public Policy Institute, (Attachment 3).

Avis Swartzman, Revisor of Statutes and Ben Barrett, Legislative Research Department explained **Substitute for HB2051**. (Attachment 4)

Senator Downey made a motion for an amendment to **Substitute for HB2051** to change the number of students for correlation weighting from 1700 to 1690 with a corresponding change on low enrollment. Senator Vratil seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Senator Lee made motion for an amendment to **Substitute for HB2051** to remove the amendment that converted special education funding to a pupil weighting approach. Seconded by Senator Hensley. Motion carried.

Senator Vratil made a motion for an amendment to reduce the amount for the school finance study from \$450,000 to \$225,000 and to add the substance of **SB134** to **Substitute for HB2051**. Seconded by Senator Hensley. Motion carried.

Senator Vratil made a motion for an amendment to **Substitute for HB2051** to add a paragraph to encourage an eye examination by an optometrist or ophthalmologist to determine if a child suffers from conditions which might impair the ability to read. The cost would be the responsibility of the child's parent if not covered by insurance. The motion was seconded by Senator Schodorf. Motion carried. (Attachment 5)

Senator Oleen made a motion to amend **Substitute for HB2051** by removing the amendment to change the formula on how to count kindergarten students and retain the formula as it was at .5 FTE. Seconded Senator Downey. Motion carried.

Senator Umbarger made a motion to amend **Substitute for HB2051** by striking, on page 5, in the last sentence in subsection (c), "an intensive research based reading intervention component" and inserting "intensive interventions for K-3 pupils needing assistance in achieving mastery of basic reading, writing and mathematics skills". The motion was seconded by Senator Vratil. Motion carried. (Attachment 6)

CONTINUATION SHEET

March 28, 2001

Chairman Umbarger called upon Chris Cartwright, Legislative Research Department, to explain the two year funding proposal in **Substitute for HB2051**. (Attachment 7)

Chairman Umbarger recessed the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 5:00 p.m. in Room 123-S.

After discussion, Senator Vratil made a motion to amend **Substitute for HB2051** by replacing the Governor's language with that source of revenue explained by Chris Cartright in attachment 7 above. Seconded by Senator Schodorf. Motion carried.

To ensure that the Governor's extended learning proposals have the authority that schools will need to implement them, Senator Vratil made a motion to amend **SB313** into **Substitute for HB2051** which clearly would give schools authority to require students to attend extended school. Seconded by Senator Hensley. Motion carried.

Senator Umbarger made a motion to amend the Governor's bill by going into the 2002-03 school year and putting an additional \$130 in the second year base, with the funding coming from the amendments put into **Substitute for HB2051** today. Seconded by Senator Downey. Motion passed.

Comments were made that if the Committee passes a multi-year program, the Committee would expect that the districts make the plan work and not come back next year asking for more money. Also, that the children that are at-risk are many times from the lower income families and they are the ones who say they cannot afford more taxes. These are the very people who will receive the greatest benefit out of an increase in taxes. They are the people who are the most needful of this plan.

Senator Downey made a motion to pass **Substitute for HB2051** out favorably as amended. Seconded by Senator Vratil. Motion carried.

Chairman Umbarger thanked the Committee for all the hard work this session. Meeting adjourned.