

Approved: February 24, 2011
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Clay Aurand at 9:00 a.m. On January 19, 2011, in Room 784 of the Docking State Office Building.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Sharon Wenger, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Reagan Cussimano, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Eunice C. Peters, Kansas Revisor of Statutes
Norm Furse, Kansas Revisor of Statutes
Dale Dennis, Deputy Commissioner, Kansas State Department of Education
Jan Johnston, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Representative Richard Carlson
Carrie Ross, concerned citizen
Travis Ross, concerned citizen
Mark Tallman, Kansas School Boards
Lana Oleen, Interim President, Midwestern Higher Education Compact

Written testimony:

Tara Underwood, Board President, USD 247 Southeast, Cherokee, KS

HB 2004 - School districts; defining non-resident pupil.

Chairman Aurand opened the hearing on **HB 2004**. The bill pertains to school districts furnishing transportation to any non-resident pupil who is enrolled in and attending school in the district. Chairman Aurand introduced Eunice Peters from the Kansas Revisors' Office to give an overview to committee members of **HB 2004**.

Representative Carlson spoke to Committee members as a proponent of **HB 2004**. Representative Carlson told the committee this bill allows the parents of children to determine where their child will go to school. Presently our state statutes require a non-resident student to receive the approval of both school districts in order to attend a non-resident school when living ten or less miles from the attendance center in which the pupil resides. In other words the resident district may prohibit the non-resident school bus from entering his district. (Attachment 1)

Travis Ross also spoke to the Committee members as a proponent of **HB 2004**. Mr. Ross and his wife, Carrie, would like their child to attend the Onaga School District because not only are they both Alumni but they have many friends in the area. They live one-half mile from Onaga's bus stop but the bus is unable to pick up their son because they are located in the USD 323 School District and there is a ten mile law restriction. (Attachment 2)

A question and answer session followed the presentation.

Mark Tallman, Associate Executive Director for Advocacy, Kansas Association of School Boards spoke to Committee members in opposition of **HB 2004**. He thanked the Committee for giving him the opportunity to testify on **HB 2004** which **would** remove most limits on the authority of school districts to send buses into another district to transport students to and from school without the permission of the other district. (Attachment 3)

A question and answer session followed the presentation.

Tara Underwood provided written testimony only. (Attachment 4)

Chairman Aurand then closed the hearing on **HB 2004**.

Unless specifically noted, the individual remarks recorded herein have not been transcribed verbatim. Individual remarks as reported herein have not been submitted to the individuals appearing before the committee for editing or corrections.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the House Education Committee at 9:00 a.m. On January 19, 2011, in Room 784 of the Docking State Office Building.

Ms. Lana Oleen, Interim President of the Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC), thanked Committee members for the opportunity to give an overview of the purpose of MHEC.

MHEC is one of four statutorily created interstate compacts created for the purpose of advancing higher education through cooperation and resource sharing. MHEC was established in 1991 and serves Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin. (Attachment 5)

A question and answer session followed the presentation.

Representative Ward moved to introduce a bill which would address transportation issues in Leavenworth, the language would be similar to **SB 11**. It was seconded by Representative Trimmer. The motion carried.

Chairman Aurand moved to introduce a bill for the **State Board** of Education for the School of Blind and Deaf. Representative Osterman seconded. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for January 25, 2011.