

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Clay Aurand at 9:15 A.M. on February 6, 2008 in Room 783 of the Docking State Office Building.

All members were present except:

Benjamin Hodge- absent
Marti Crow- excused
Geraldine Flaharty- excused
Valdenia Winn- excused

Committee staff present:

Dianne Rosell, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Sharon Wenger, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Janet Henning, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Reginald L. Robinson, President & CEO, Kansas Board of Regents
Diane Lindeman, Director of Student Financial Assistance, Kansas Board of Regents

Chairman Aurand recognized Representative Phelps who requested a 'point of personal privilege'. Representative Phelps advised the surgery for Representative Crow had gone well and she would be at home recuperating for a short period of time.

Reginald L. Robinson, President & CEO, Kansas Board of Regents, gave a 2008 Legislative and Public Policy overview to Committee members. President Robinson also told Committee members that state university enrollment tops 90,000 students for the first time in the state's history. (Attachment #1)

A question and answer session occurred during and after the presentation.

Diane Lindeman, Director of Student Financial Assistance, Kansas Board of Regents, gave an overview of the state-funded student financial assistance program to Committee members. Special emphasis was made to the Kansas Teacher Service Scholarships program which legislators were instrumental in streamlining during last year's legislative session. (Attachment #2)

A question and answer session followed the presentation.

Introduction of Bills:

Representative Colloton introduced a bill to extend the coordinated school health program. The Committee agreed by consensus.

Representative Colloton introduced a redraft of a bill regarding excess Special Education costs. The Committee agreed by consensus.

Representative Craft introduced a bill to provide parity for school psychologists with a National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification. The Committee agreed by consensus.

Representative Aurand introduced a bill to allow school districts to partner with universities to provide training for provisionally licensed teachers. The Committee agreed by consensus.

Representative Aurand introduced a bill to legitimize the American Board for the Certification of Teaching Excellence (ABCTE). The Committee agreed by consensus.

Representative Aurand introduced a bill to stop 'course creep' in teacher education programs by capping the number of courses required. The Committee agreed by consensus.

The Chairman advised Committee members the Education Committee would be returning to their original meeting place of the Old Supreme Court Room, 313-S.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 AM. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 12, 2008.