MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Senator Dwayne Umbarger at 1:40 p.m. on March 1, 2001 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Senators Hensley and Downey (excused)

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: Eric King, Board of Regents

Larry Keirns, Director, NW KS Technical School, Goodland Ben Barrett, Director, Legislative Research Department

Others attending: See attached list

HB2190--Postsecondary education institutions, buildings, structures

Eric King, Board of Regents gave testimony in support of **HB2190**. (Attachment 1) This is the testimony which was handed out yesterday in committee by Dick Carter, Board of Regents. This bill would remove language requiring community colleges, area vocational schools, and technical colleges to submit building plans to the State Board of Education. The institutions still would be required to submit code compliance review documents to the State Fire Marshal for evaluation and approval of fire and life safety features, prior to building construction or remodeling.

Gale Haag, State Fire Marshall, offered written testimony in support of **HB2190**. (<u>Attachment 2</u>)

Senator Oleen made a motion to pass favorably **HB2190**. Senator Teichman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

HB2001--Northwest Kansas technical college, establishment authorized

Dick Carter, Board of Regents, submitted written testimony (Attachment 3) and gave the floor to Mr. Larry Keirns to present oral testimony in support of **HB2001**.

Larry Keirns, Director of the Northwest Kansas Technical School, Goodland, Kansas offered his testimony in support of **HB2001**. (<u>Attachment 4</u>)

During discussion, concern was expressed about the waiting lists. It is felt that the Committee needs to know what areas are most in demand and what the current waiting periods are so that the Committee can respond to the problem.

Senator Oleen made a motion to pass favorably **HB2001**. Seconded by Senator Schodorf. Motion carried.

HB2217--School districts, transportation of nonresident pupils

Ben Barrett, Legislative Research Department gave a briefing on **HB2217**. There were no proponents or opponents to testify on the bill.

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Senator Lee made a motion to pass favorably HB2217. Seconded by Senator Schodorf. Motion carried.

Chairman Umbarger stated that he hopes that within the next two weeks the Committee can pass a bill on school finance. He recommended that Committee members get their thoughts together as to what they want in the bill. The Committee will have to address the concerns on school finance.

Chairman Umbarger advised the Committee that the school finance survey in his district has resulted in 70% or over in favor of a tax increase. Senator Oleen encouraged the rest of the Committee to follow Senator Umbarger's lead to put the survey in their newspapers to find out what their districts think.

Chairman Umbarger adjourned the meeting at 2:15 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled Monday, March 5, 2001.