

MINUTES OF THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jean Schodorf at 1:40 p.m. on February 8, 2006, in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

Committee members absent:

Committee staff present: Carolyn Rampey, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes
Shirley Higgins, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Reginald L. Robinson, President & CEO, Kansas Board of Regents

Senator Schodorf called the Committee's attention to the minutes of the January 19 and 24 meetings.

Senator Steineger moved to approve the minutes of the January 19 and 24 meetings, seconded by Senator Ostmeyer. The motion carried.

Overview of technical college governance and funding:

Reginald L. Robinson, President and CEO, Kansas Board of Regents, outlined how Kansas' technical education system evolved over the years and the current governance status of Kansas' technical colleges. In addition, he reviewed an example of the postsecondary aid entitlement formula for technical institutions and the recommendations the Board received from the Northwest Education Research Center in 2004. In conclusion, he informed the Committee that the Board produced a working paper in August 2005 that puts a number of important technical education issues on the table and proposes some options for how to deal with the issues. He noted that the Board expects to submit a legislative proposal on the issues no later than the 2007 Legislative Session. (Attachment 1) For the Committee's information, he distributed a copy of the working paper. (Attachment 2)

A memorandum from Kip Peterson, Director of Government Relations and Communications, Kansas Board of Regents, was distributed in response to a request at a previous meeting that the Board provide data pertaining to the number of students who have enrolled at public higher education institutions under the provisions of K.S.A. 76-731a. (Attachment 3)

Senator Schodorf opened a discussion on a previously heard bill, **SB 332** authorizing Regents' institutions to acquire insurance. She noted that a clarifying balloon amendment which was prepared by the sponsors of the bill after the hearing. Senator Vratil commented that he had a chance to see the proposed amendment and could now support the bill. Senator Schodorf called attention to the balloon of the bill which was attached to a letter from Paul Carttar, Executive Vice Chancellor for External Affairs for the University of Kansas, in support of the balloon amendment. (Attachment 4)

Senator Vratil moved to adopt the proposed balloon amendment, seconded by Senator Teichman. The motion carried.

Senator Vratil moved to recommend **SB 332** favorably for passage as amended, seconded by Senator Pine. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 9, 2006.