

MINUTES OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL FINANCE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kathe Decker at 9:15 A.M. on March 15, 2006 in Room 313-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:
Valdenia Winn- excused

Committee staff present:
Kathie Sparks, Kansas Legislative Research
Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes Office
Ann Deitcher, Committee Secretary

Continuation of HB 2986 - concerning school districts; relating to school finance.

Theresa Kiernan explained the balloon amendments as well as the proposed amendments to **HB 2986** to the Committee. (Attachment 1).

Following a brief discussion, the Chair asked that Representative DeCastro work with Theresa on the wording in regard to page 1, lines 26 - 40 of **HB 2986**.

Representative O'Neal spoke of the proposed amendment to **HB 2986**.

A motion was made by Representative O'Neal and seconded by Representative Crow to accept this amendment to **HB 2986**. The motion passed on a voice vote.

Referring to the deletion on line 32 of page 12, the Chair requested that the deletion of the words "foundational level funds" be restored with the addition of the words from the balloon amendment "from amounts received as supplemental general state aid shall be used to meet the requirements of QPA, to provide programs and services required by law and to improve student performance."

Representative O'Neal made the motion to accept this as an amendment to **HB 2986**. Representative Hayzlett seconded the motion.

Representative Crow opposed this proposed amendment. She wanted the words "foundational level funds" to remain in the bill with no additions.

Following an explanation by Barb Hinton of the Division of LPO, Representatives O'Neal and Hayzlett requested a substitute motion to **HB 2986**.

A motion to this effect was made by Representative O'Neal and seconded by Representative Hayzlett and passed on a voice vote.

Representatives Crow, Flaharty and Phelps wished to be recorded as nay votes.

A motion was made by Representative Decker and seconded by Representative O'Neal to adopt the balloon amendment on page 13, line 42. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Representative Gordon moved for the adoption of the balloon amendment on page 15, line 9. Representative O'Neal seconded the motion and it passed on a voice vote.

A motion was made by Representative O'Neal and seconded by Representative Gordon to adopt into **HB 2986**, the amendment in new section 22. (Attachment 2).

Also included in this attachment was a plan that would enable the district court to be the exclusive court of original jurisdiction in any civil action in law or equity in which a legislative enactment is alleged to be unconstitutional.

CONTINUATION SHEET

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It was decided that more work was needed on this amendment. Staff will work with Representatives O'Neal, Gordon and Crow.

Referring to page 18, following line 1, the following proposed amendments, (Attachment 3), would be inserted in **HB 2986**,

Representative O'Neal moved for the insertion of New Section 20. The motion was seconded by Representative Gordon and passed on a voice vote.

A motion was made by Representative O'Neal and seconded by Representative Hayzlett to insert New Section 21.

Following a discussion, it was decided that Representative O'Neal and Representative Crow would work together with Staff on the language of this amendment before bringing it back before the Committee.

It was moved by Representative O'Neal that New Section 24 be amended into **HB 2986**. Representative Merrick seconded the motion.

Representative O'Neal offered a second part to the proposed amendment's New Section 24 saying: that the LPO report found that although the state law doesn't require districts to transport all students who lived more than 2 ½ miles from school, the transportation funding formula helps pay for any students the district chooses to transport more than 2 ½ miles. Districts don't report how many of the students that do transport more than 2 ½ miles they're required to transport so without that information LPO wasn't able to calculate the cost of transporting more of those students than required by law to transport.

It was pointed out by Representative O'Neal that since non-mandated services were being paid for, they should receive a report from the districts the number of students that transport more than 2 ½ miles those who are required under state law to be transported.

An amendment to his motion was requested by Representative O'Neal and agreed to by Representative Merrick that would add this second part but was then withdrawn.

Representative O'Neal felt that in the future there should be a recording of actual usage in particular of those students that are being transported more than 2 ½ miles that are required to be transported under state law.

The Chair requested a letter to be drawn up by Staff to the LCC asking for the LEPC or the 2010 Commission to do an in-depth study of transportation during the interim before any motions to this effect be made.

A motion was made by Representative Decker and seconded by Representative O'Neal to adopt the amendments to New Section 25. The motion passed on a voice vote.

Written testimony was distributed from Karl Peterjohn of the Kansas Taxpayers Network regarding his organization's support of **HCR 5032**, that had been heard in Committee the previous day.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 16, 2006.