

Approved: _____
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Representative Ralph Tanner at 9:00 a.m. on January 26, 2000 in Room 313-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: A quorum was present.

Committee staff present: Avis Swartzman, Revisor of Statutes
Ben Barrett, Legislative Research Department
Carolyn Rampey, Legislative Research Department
Renae Jefferies, Revisor of Statutes

Conferees appearing before the committee: Representative Bill McCreary
Anne Massey
Matt Reiner
Richard Hamlin
Amy Kennedy
Jodi Podschun
Randy Tuxhorn
Stacey Farmer, KASB
Gary Musselman, KS State High School Activities Assoc.

Others attending: See Attached List

Representative Empson moved to place **HB 2655** on the Consent Calendar. Representative Benlon seconded. The motion passed.

Representative Tanner introduced Colonel Hester of the Wichita Schools Junior ROTC, who in turn introduced the following JROTC members: Shelley Cooper, Diane Atkinson, Mark Wagner, and Matt Ramsey. Each student gave a brief statement about the JROTC and what it means to each of them.

Hearings on **HB 2388 - Private elementary or secondary schools, participation in extracurricular activities** were opened.

Representative Bill McCreary, sponsor of the bill, gave a brief explanation of what the bill would do. He then introduced proponents of the bill, who each gave testimony. The proponents were: Amy Massey, (Attachment 1), Matt Reiner, (Attachment 2), Richard Hamlin, (Attachment 3), Amy Kennedy, (Attachment 4), Joni Podschun, (Attachment 5), and Randy Tuxhorn (Attachment 6). Each of the proponents expressed their desire that the bill be passed out favorably, because it would allow them to participate in school activities that would enrich their education in home school situations.

Representative Tanner then introduced Gary Musselman, Executive Director of the Kansas State High Schools Activities Association. Mr. Musselman gave testimony opposing the bill. (Attachments 7 and 8). Mr. Musselman expressed the belief held by members of his association that allowing home school students to participate in extracurricular activities would be unfair to those students attending accredited schools who must meet certain eligibility requirements in order to participate. The association also has concerns that this bill would allow for 'school shopping' and recruitment.

The next opponent of the bill was Stacey Farmer, Kansas Association of School Boards. After giving her testimony, (Attachment 9). Ms Farmer also expressed concerns about the verification of minimum eligibility requirements among home schoolers, stating that public school students must meet weekly standards, while home school students are only required to take a nationally standardized test to be eligible to participate.

Hearings on **HB 2388** were closed.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

