

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Rhoades called the meeting to order at 12:34 p.m. on March 31, 2011, in Room 346-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

- Representative Carlson - Excused
- Representative Gordon – Excused
- Representative Kleeb – Excused
- Representative McLeland - Excused
- Representative Shultz - Excused

Committee staff present:

- Jim Wilson, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
- Jason Long, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
- J.G. Scott, Kansas Legislative Research Department
- Jarod Waltner, Kansas Legislative Research Department
- Shirley Morrow, Kansas Legislative Research Department
- Cindy O'Neal, Administrative Assistant, Appropriations Committee
- Kathy Holscher, Committee Assistant, Appropriations Committee

Conferees:

- Doug Bowman, Kansas Interagency Coordinating Council on Early Childhood Developmental Services
- Terry Collins, Doniphan County Education Coop
- Dr. Linda Aldridge, Kansas Association of Special Education Administrators
- Bert Moore, Chautauqua & Elk County Special Education Services

Others attending: See attached list

- Attachment 1 **SB111** Testimony – Kansas Interagency Coordinating Council
- Attachment 2 **SB 111** Testimony - Doniphan County Education Cooperative
- Attachment 3 **SB 111** Testimony - Kansas Association of Special Education Administrators
- Attachment 4 **SB 111** Testimony – Chautauqua and Elk County Special Education Services
- Attachment 5 **SB 111** Testimony – Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center
- Attachment 6 **SB 111** Testimony – Cowley County Special Services Cooperatives
- Attachment 7 **SB 111** Testimony – High Plains Educational Cooperatives
- Attachment 8 **SB 111** Testimony - ANW Special Education Cooperative\
- Attachment 9 **SB 111** Testimony - North Central Kansas Special Education Cooperative
- Attachment 10 **SB 111** Testimony – Hays West Central Kansas Special Education Coop
- Attachment 11 Trends in Student Free and Reduced Lunch Eligibility

**SB 111: An act concerning school districts; relating to special education state aid**

Doug Bowman, Staff, Kansas Interagency Coordinating Council on Early Education Services, presented testimony as a proponent of **SB 111 (Attachment 1)**. He stated that the proposal would calculate an average amount of aid reimbursement per student and the current law then would reduce the payment for districts that exceed 150% of the statewide average. **SB 111** would delay the implementation for one year, he added.

Terry Collins, Director, Doniphan County Education Cooperative #616, presented testimony as a proponent of **SB 111 (Attachment 2)**. He discussed the effect of the calculations and the potential impact on the districts. With this bill the delay of implementation would give the districts another year to further study the impact on school districts.

Terry Collins responded to questions from committee members. He stated that current dollars are based on FTE teaching positions (\$24,500 per teacher) with 4/10 % of that amount for paraprofessionals.

Dr. Linda Aldridge, representing the Kansas Association of Special Education Administrators, presented testimony as a proponent of **SB 111 (Attachment 3)**. She stated that the without the passage of this bill

CONTINUATION SHEET

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approximately \$50 reduction per teacher in special education would be implemented and the deletion of the minimum and maximum section would restore the disbursement of aid to the previous formula which would eliminate funding shifts.

Bert Moore, Director, Chautauqua and Elk County Special Education Services, presented an overview of the Special Education Funding Task Force and testimony in support of **SB 111** ([Attachment 4](#)). He stated that with the passage of this bill the language would be removed regarding the calculation of excess cost from the formula.

Mr. Moore responded to questions from committee members. He stated that if this bill does not pass, the three districts he represents would lose \$150,000 in funding. Mr. Moore discussed the impact on programs and services funding reductions and meeting the needs of special education students.

Chairman Rhoades stated the written testimony has been distributed from Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center ([Attachment 5](#)), Cowley County Special Services Cooperative ([Attachment 6](#)), High Plains Educational Cooperative ([Attachment 7](#)), ANW Special Education Cooperative ([Attachment 8](#)), North Central Kansas Special Education Cooperative ([Attachment 9](#)), and Hays West Central Kansas Special Education Coop ([Attachment 10](#)). A copy of Trends in Student Free and Reduced Lunch Eligibility was distributed to committee members ([Attachment 11](#)) as requested by members, he added.

The meeting adjourned at: 1:09 p.m.

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Marc Rhoades, Chairman