

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Rhoades called the meeting to order at 12:38 p.m. on April 1, 2011, in Room 346-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Gordon – excused
Representative Shultz - excused

Committee staff present:

Jim Wilson, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Jason Long, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Alan Conroy, Kansas Legislative Research Department
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

Others attending: See attached list

- Attachment **HB 2395** – Balloon Amendment

Chairman Rhoades welcomed committee members and reviewed the committee agenda.

HB 2395: An act concerning school districts; relating to the use of moneys by school districts

Jason Long, Office of the Revisor of Statutes, provided an overview of the amendment for **HB 2395**. He stated that this bill would free up unencumbered balances in a number of funds for general operating expenditures for school districts. A copy of the balloon amendment was distributed to members (Attachment 1). He reviewed a technical amendment regarding unencumbered funds for special education weighting under the school finance formula.

Representative Kelley made a motion to approve the amendment for **HB 2395**, which includes language on page 2, subsection b, line 10 (1) excluding special education and related services weighting. The motion was seconded by Representative DeGraaf. Motion carried.

Jason Long, Office of the Revisor of Statutes, presented an overview of an amendment for **HB 2395** (Attachment 1) that would state of the amount a school district is authorized to expend from the unencumbered balances, at least one half of that amount would have to go towards statutory definition of classroom instruction. He stated that the statutory definition of classroom instruction involves activities dealing directly with with interaction between teachers and students in various teacher/student settings and with a variety of teaching aids.

Representative Kelley made a motion to approve the amendment for **HB 2395** regarding authorized expenditures for unencumbered balances by at least one half of that amount for classroom instruction. The motion was seconded by Representative Crum. Motion carried.

Representative DeGraaf made a motion for an amendment to require the increases unencumbered balance expenditure from at least 50% to 75% for classroom instruction. Representative Sullentrop seconded the motion.

Discussion followed by committee members. A committee member requested a list of schools with the percentage of use of their unencumbered funds and the actual dollar amount spent in order to determine what is actually needed, prior to Omnibus.

Dale Dennis, Deputy Directory, Department of Education, stated that last year direct instruction averaged 61 – 62% state-wide and with the addition of librarians, counselors, nurses another 4.5% would be added to that amount. It was noted that the current statute states a policy goal of 65% and the new amendment would require 75% for classroom instruction. He discussed the board responsibility in regards to budgeting issues, which are developed at the beginning of the school year.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the House Appropriations Committee at 12:38p.m. on April 1, 2011, in Room 346-S of the Capitol.

Representative DeGraaf renewed the motion to amend. Motion failed.

Representative Donohoe made a motion for an amendment for as much money as possible would go to the classroom instruction, but school districts would have to adhere to current standard of at least 65%. Representative Kelley seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Representative Kelley made a motion to move the contents of **HB 2395** into **SB 111** as amended. The motion was seconded by Representative Crum. Motion carried.

Representative Kelley made a motion to pass **SB 111** as a substitute bill. The motion was seconded by Representative Pottorff. Motion carried.

Representative Lane referred to information members received from Dale Goter, City of Wichita Aquifer Storage and Recovery Program.

Chairman Rhoades stated that **HB 2400** will be worked at Omnibus on Monday, April 18 & 19. Committee member will be notified if conference committee meetings are held during the Legislative recess, he stated.

Representative Ballard made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 7, 8 and 17 meetings. The motion was seconded by Representative Carlin. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 1.22 p.m.

Marc Rhoades, Chairman