

MINUTES OF THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jean Schodorf at 1:30 p.m. on March 9, 2011, in Room 152-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Sharon Wenger, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Eunice Peters, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Dale Dennis, Deputy Commissioner, Kansas Department of Education
Dorothy Gerhardt, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Diane Goddard, Vice Provost for Administration and Finance and Interim CIO, University of Kansas
Dr. Andy Tompkins, President and CEO, Kansas Board of Regents (written only)
Sue Gamble, Schools for the Blind and Deaf

Others attending:

See attached list.

Approval of Minutes

Senator King moved to approve the minutes of March 2, March 3, and March 7, 2011 as written. The motion was seconded by Senator Owens. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Hearing on **HB 2020 - State educational institution housing system funds**

Eunice Peters, Office of the Revisor of Statutes, provided a brief overview of the provisions in **HB 2020**. This legislation in **HB 2020** would allow revenues from rents, boarding fees, other charges related to university student housing, as well as interest earnings on specific funds at state universities to go to the housing system suspense fund, as is the current practice, or directly to the housing system operations fund as requested by the university. Currently, universities may transfer funding from their housing system suspense funds to operations as needed. **HB 2020** would have no fiscal effect.

Diane Goddard, Vice Provost for Administration and Finance and Interim CIO, University of Kansas, appeared before the committee in support of **HB 2020** (Attachment 1). Current law requires all payments received for rents and other charges in operating the housing system first be deposited in a housing suspense fund and then transferred to a housing operations fund. Expenses for operating the housing system are then charged to the operations fund. The proposed legislation allows universities the option of depositing funds first in the suspense fund or in the operations fund.

Also providing testimony in support of **HB 2020** was Dr. Andy Tompkins, President and CEO, Kansas Board of Regents (Attachment 2) (written only) stating the change in legislation would provide options to the universities affected and would result in increased operational efficiencies.

Following a brief committee discussion, the hearing was closed.

It was moved by Senator Teichman, seconded by Senator Schmidt, that the committee recommend **HB 2020** favorable for passage. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Hearing on **HB 2078 - State schools for the deaf and blind; authorization to contract for training programs year round**

Eunice Peters, Office of the Revisor of Statutes, provided a brief overview of the provisions in **HB 2078**. Under current law, the School for the Blind is permitted to conduct training programs only during the summer; however, the School for the Deaf can hold training sessions at any time during the year. **HB 2078** would allow the School for the Blind to also conduct training programs year round.

According to the School for the Blind, enactment of **HB 2078** would have no fiscal effect. All training

CONTINUATION SHEET

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programs are financed by fees imposed on those accessing the services.

Sue Gamble, Information Officer for the schools, provided brief testimony in support of the proposed legislation. She stated this change provided in **HB 2078** would meet requests for services year-round from the School for the Blind.

Following committee discussion, the hearing was closed.

It was moved by Senator Schmidt, seconded by Senator Umbarger, that the committee recommend **HB 2078** favorable for passage. Motion carried on a voice vote.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 10, 2011.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.