

Approved:

03/30/12

(Date)

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE EDUCATION BUDGET COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lana Gordon at 3:30 on Thursday, March 15, 2012, in room 159-S of the Capitol.

All members were present

Committee staff present:

Reagan Cussimanio-KLDR
Jason Long-KLRD
Eunice Peters-Revisor
Edw. Balda, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Others in attendance: see attached list

HB 2773-Authorizing the expenditure of unencumbered balances held by school districts; reducing local option budget authority in certain circumstances

Chairman Gordon opened the session and asked Jason Long to give a review of **HB 2773**. Representative Feuerborn asked for clarification regarding the Gardner-Edgerton School District finances as pertained to this bill. Reagan Cussimanio gave explanation, adding that this amounted to about a forty-one dollar reduction on base. Representative Spalding inquired as to the source of the money. Ms. Cussimanio replied that the funding would allow the districts to use unencumbered balances to make up the forty-one dollar reduction. There was much discussion between members Aurand, Cassidy, Feuerborn and Spalding. Representative Spalding asked if anyone actually knows the cash value amounts that the school districts had as ending balances last year. That is an unknown number. *Representative Aurand moved that the balloon that was passed out last week be moved out. This was seconded by Representative Landwehr. (Attachment 1)* A vote was taken and the motion was carried. Representative Aurand asked for further explanation of the balloon from Jason Long. *Representative Aurand made a second motion to pass the amendment to the balloon as described by Mr. Long.* This motion was *seconded by Representative Landwehr*. Discussion was made by Representative Spalding, and Representative Winn, whereas Mr. Long gave further detailed explanation. Ms. Cussimanio also

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explained the balloon, and addressed the At Risk feature. Representative Spalding stated that it appeared that some districts were being punished by this bill and that others were not.

Representative Aurand made a motion to remove the LOB piece out of the bill. This was seconded by Representative Landwehr. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

Representative Cassidy made a motion that only the schools that did not decrease their incumbered funds would be effected by this bill. All other schools would remain the same. This motion was seconded by Representative Landwehr. Mr. Long provided additional data (Attachment 2) which listed the Kansas school districts and cash on hand balances. There was further discussion by Representatives Winn and Cassidy as well as Mr. Long. There was yet further commentary by Representatives Spalding and Cassidy. Representative Landwehr stated that no matter how hard we try, you'll never get blood out of a turnip; we cannot keep raising taxes to meet everyone's wants. Representatives Spalding and Cassidy shared comments to each other.

After further discussion with members and revisors, Representative Cassidy withdrew his motion, also seconded by Representative Landwehr. Representative Arpke commented as to a similar financial situation in his own school district.

Representative Landwehr made a motion to put the contents as amended into SB41 and to pass it out as a substitute bill. This was seconded by Representative Arpke. A vote was taken and the motion failed.

Representative Aurand moved to pass out the bill out as amended. It was seconded by Representative Landwehr, there was no discussion. A vote was taken, the bill carried.

The Chair thanked the members and the meeting adjourned.