

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairperson Deena Horst at 9:00 a.m. on March 19, 2009, in Room 711 of the Docking State Office Building.

All members were present except:

Representative Clay Aurand- excused
Representative Bob Brookens- excused
Representative Melvin Neufeld- excused
Representative Bill Otto- excused
Representative Charlie Roth- excused
Representative Valdenia Winn- excused

Committee staff present:

Sharon Wenger, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Theresa Kiernan, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Dale Dennis, Kansas State Department of Education
Janet Henning, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Mark Desetti, Kansas National Education Association

Vice-Chairperson Horst told Committee members for the purpose of chairing the House Education Committee on March 19, 2009, she would appoint Representative Ann Mah as the Chairperson.

SB 290 - Teachers at the school for the deaf and the school for the blind under the professional negotiation act.

Acting Chairperson Mah opened the hearing on **SB 290.**

Theresa Kiernan, Senior Assistant Revisor, Office of the Revisor of Statutes, gave an overview of **SB 290** to Committee members. (Attachment 1)

Mark Desetti, Kansas National Education Association, spoke to Committee members as a proponent of **SB 290.** Mr. Desetti told Committee members that in March, 2007, KNEA supported **HB 2422** which was a bill to make teacher salaries at the Kansas School for the Deaf and Kansas School for the Blind competitive. That bill tied their salaries to the Olathe School District. He stated that while **HB 2422** addressed the issue of salary, it failed to give these teachers any control over their own work lives. KNEA supports the passage of **SB 290** as a means for professionalizing the work of teachers at the Schools for the Deaf and Blind and providing parity with their professional colleagues throughout the state. (Attachment 2)

After a brief discussion by Committee members, Acting Chairperson Mah closed the hearing on **SB 290.**

Acting Chairperson Mah asked Committee members for discussion on **SB 290.**

Representative Loganbill moved to pass out SB 290 favorably for passage. The motion was seconded by Representative Horst. The motion carried.

HCR 5015 - Dyslexia and other reading problems; the state board of education to take certain actions.

Acting Chairperson Mah asked Committee members for discussion on **HCR 5015.**

Representative Spalding moved to pass out HCR 5015 favorably for passage. The motion was seconded by Representative Crow. The motion carried.

Acting Chairperson Mah told Committee members this would be the last meeting of the House Education Committee for this session and thanked all members and staff for their attendance and support.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:24 a.m. No further meetings are anticipated for the House Education Committee for this session.