

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Clay Aurand at 9:05 A.M. on March 26, 2008 in Room 313-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:
Benjamin Hodge- absent

Committee staff present:
Theresa Kiernan, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Dianne Rosell, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Dale Dennis, Kansas State Department of Education
Martha Dorsey, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Sharon Wenger, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Janet Henning, Committee Assistant

HB 2969: Virtual school act
SB 669: Virtual schools; funding; enrollment; administration

Chairman Aurand explained to Committee members the Subcommittee Report on Virtual Schools (Attachment #1 and #2)

Chairman Aurand moved to adopt the Subcommittee Report for SB 669. Representative Horst seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Representative Faber moved to pass out SB 669 favorably, as amended. Representative Horst seconded the motion. The motion carried.

SB 531: School finance; base state aid per pupil

Representative Faber moved to pass out SB 531 favorably for passage. The motion was seconded by Representative Otto. After a discussion among Committee members, Representative Faber withdrew the motion.

Representative Crow moved for an amendment, subject to Appropriations, which would take some of the \$31 million and, rather than on a per teacher basis, would distribute funds on the number of eligible students that are receiving Medicaid funding services. The motion was seconded by Representative Horst. (Attachment # 3)

After a lengthy discussion among Committee members, Representative Spalding moved for a substitute motion to include in Representative Crow's amendment, in school year 2008-09 and each school year thereafter, any amount appropriated for state aid for special education and related services which exceeds the amount appropriated in the preceding school year, shall be distributed first to those school districts which received less than 92% of the amount of the district's actual cost of providing special education and related services during the previous school year and any amount remaining after making the distribution required shall be distributed to all school districts as described in the Medicaid Replacement State Aid section. Representative Colloton seconded the motion. The motion failed.

The Committee was referred back to Representative Crow's amendment. The amendment carried by show of hands, 14 - yes and 7 - no.

Chairman Aurand moved for an amendment to 1) add the contents of HB 2734 which would change current school consolidation law and would, as amended, guarantee combined general fund budgets in varying lengths to various-sized school districts desiring to consolidate, and 2) amend the bill by adding an option to school consolidation agreements requiring a dual majority of qualified electors voting in favor of consolidation. The motion was seconded by Representative Horst. It was requested that the motion be divided in to two parts. Both parts of the motion carried. (Attachment #4)

Representative Colloton moved for an amendment to SB 531 which would include the second count date, SB 459. The motion was seconded by Representative Spalding. The motion failed. (Attachment #5)

Representative Mah moved to pass out SB 531, as amended, favorably for passage. The motion was seconded by Representative Horst. The motion carried.

Chairman Aurand introduced his parents, Glen and Helen Aurand of Courtland, Kansas, who were visiting the Capitol.

Chairman Aurand thanked the staff and Committee members for their commitment and expertise these past two years.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 A.M. No further meetings are anticipated for this legislative session.