

MINUTES OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL FINANCE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kathe Decker at 9:00 A.M. on March 16, 2006 in Room 313-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:
Valdenia Winn- excused

Committee staff present:
Kathie Sparks, Kansas Legislative Research
Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes Office
Ann Deitcher, Committee Secretary

HB 2986 - School districts; school finance.

A motion was made by Representative O'Neal and seconded by Representative Crow to adopt New Section 21 into **HB 2986**. (Attachment 1). The motion passed on a voice vote.

Representative O'Neal proposed the alternative amendment to New Section 27, (Attachment 2), to be adopted into **HB 2986**. The motion was seconded by Representative Gordon

Representative Merrick asked if this amendment would go along with his proposed amendment. (Attachment 3). Theresa Kiernan explained that there would be no conflict.

A motion was made by Representative O'Neal and seconded by Representative Decker that the alternative amendment to **HB 2986** would now read "in order to adjust for regional cost differences among school districts in the state, the State Board shall make recommendations to the Governor for adjustments to the amount of state aid. In determining the amount of any such adjustments, the Board will receive it's data from the LPA studies. The motion passed on a voice vote.

Representative Merrick moved that his amendment be merged into Representative O'Neal's alternative amendment to **HB 2986**. Representative O'Neal seconded the motion. The motion passed on a voice vote.

Representatives Crow, Flaharty and Phelps wished to be recorded as nay votes.

Regarding the density at-risk, the Chair asked for a letter to be written by Staff to the LEPC requesting that they would have the At-risk Council take a look at the density at-risk because of the complexity of the issue.

Representative Decker proposed a new act (5rs2300), concerning at-risk pupils. This bill would establish a pilot program for the creation of academies in certain school districts providing for the administration and oversight of such a program. (Attachment 4).

New Section 4 (a) was offered as an amendment to this bill. (Attachments 5 and 6).

Representative O'Neal asked staff to add in (b), another criteria under which districts could qualify and that would be at least 50% at-risk pupils. This would pick up an additional five districts, those being Elk Valley, Galena, Coffeerville, Liberal and Dodge City.

A motion was made by Representative O'Neal and seconded by Representative Crow to include this amendment to the bill. The motion carried on a voice vote.

A motion was made by Representative Decker and seconded by Representative O'Neal that this bill be adopted as amended. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Representative Decker made the motion that the moneys for this would come from high density at-risk funds.

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Representative Merrick seconded the motion and it passed on a voice vote.

Information regarding vocational ed start-up grants was provided. (Attachment 7).

Representative DeCastro moved that this amendment be made, the motion was seconded by Representative O'Neal and passed on a voice vote.

A motion was made by Representative Merrick and seconded by Representative Gordon to amend **HB 2986** to stay within the percentage that was budgeted.. This would mean adjusting it to spend the same amount of extra dollars. (Attachment 8). The motion carried on a voice vote.

It was moved by Representative Crow and seconded by Representative Phelps to approve the minutes for the meetings of March 1, 2 and 3. The motion passed on a voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35. The next meeting of the Select Committee is scheduled for Friday, March 17, 2006.