

MINUTES OF THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jean Schodorf at 1:30 p.m. on March 18, 2008, in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

Committee members absent: Senators Ostmeyer, Vratil, and McGinn – excused

Committee staff present: Sharon Wenger, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Carol Toland, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes Office
Matt Todd, Revisor of Statutes Office
Bev Beam, Substitute Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: None

Discussion and final action on bills previously heard:

HB 2758 - Concerning schools; relating to cyberbullying, school district policies

The Chair asked Thomas Witt, Chair, Kansas Equality Coalition, for a brief overview of the bill. Mr. Witt said the bullying statute that was passed last year is a directive to the districts to provide training through grants that keep the kids in school and teaches them the consequences of bullying. The Chair said the districts are implementing the policy from last year.

Senator Hensley moved to recommend **HB 2758** favorably for passage, seconded by Senator Pine. Motion carried.

SB 623 - School finance; high density at-risk formula; linear transition calculation

The Chair asked Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes Office, for a brief overview of the bill. Ms. Kiernan explained that current provisions will be struck and new language inserted. She distributed copies of the proposed amendment. (Attachment 1)

Following lengthy discussion, the Chair said the new language will be struck, the old language will be reinserted, and the current three years will be changed to five years to consolidate, regardless of size.

Senator Apple moved to amend **SB 623** as proposed, seconded by Senator Hensley. Motion carried.

Senator Hensley moved to amend **SB 623** into **HB 2734**, seconded by Senator Teichman. Motion carried.

Senator Hensley moved to recommend **HB 2734** favorably for passage as amended, seconded by Senator Lee. Motion carried.

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

The next meeting is scheduled for March 19, 2008.