

MINUTES OF THE SENATE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dwayne Umbarger at 10:30 A.M. on January 25, 2008 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except.

Senator Donald Betts, Jr. - excused

Senator Jay Emler - excused

Committee staff present:

Jill Wolters, Senior Assistant, Revisor of Statutes

Alan Conroy, Director, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Kristen Clarke Kellems, Assistant Revisor of Statutes

Audrey Dunkel, Kansas Legislative Research Department

J. G. Scott, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Jarod Waltner, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Melinda Gaul, Chief of Staff, Senate Ways & Means

Mary Shaw, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Diane Duffy, Vice President for Financing & Administration, Kansas Board of Regents

Reginald "Reggie" Robinson, President & CEO, Kansas Board of Regents

Rich Hoffman, Kansas Area Technical Schools and Colleges

Others attending:

See attached list.

Bill Introduction

Senator McGinn moved, with a second by Senator Morris, to introduce a bill concerning counties; alternative building construction procurement. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Chairman Umbarger welcomed Diane Duffy, Vice President for Financing & Administration, Kansas Board of Regents, who addressed three areas (Attachment 1):

1. Direct State Funds/University Interest Earnings Portion of the Legislation.
2. Bond Portion of the Legislation.
3. Tax Credit Portion of the Legislation.

The Chairman welcomed Reginald "Reggie" Robinson, President and CEO, Kansas Board of Regents, who presented an update and review of the budget items for the Kansas Board of Regents (Attachment 2). President Robinson highlighted items since the conclusion of the 2007 Legislative Session. He noted that there are five new Regents on the Board; the Board has adopted a Student Loan Code of Conduct; the first Joint State Board of Education/Board of Regents meeting was held since 2003; Board receives Technical School transition plans; campus security reviews; Board's Adult Education Program receives competitive federal grant to fund "Ready for College: Adult Education Program" and Fort Hays State University selected to host Kansas Academy of Math and Sciences; continued nursing and teacher shortages. President Robinson summarized the Governor's FY 2009 Budget Recommendations highlights and detailed their 2008 Policy Initiatives. Questions and discussion followed.

Staff briefed the Committee on the Report of the Kansas Technical College and Technical School Commission to the 2008 Legislature (Attachment 3).

The Chairman welcomed Dr. Rob Edleston, who explained that the implementation of the tax credits has been successful so far (Attachment 4). The people most affected have stepped up and purchased those bonds. Dr. Edleston introduced Richard Hoffman, Past President of the Association, KATSC, and of the Kaw Area Technical School, Topeka (Attachment 5). He noted that the savings will not be enough to offset costs. Questions and discussion followed. The Committee complimented the technical schools for their innovative

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implementations that have been made in the process.

Dr. Edleston came before the Committee again regarding being held harmless and the funding for the technical colleges and schools and what happened with decreasing enrollment it created inequity. In order to change from a block grant and change to based on enrollment would probably would shut the doors on a school like Wichita Technical School. They wanted to create a period of hold harmless to not receive less funds under the new system and ask for three-year hold harmless as they regain their feet between \$1.5 - \$2 million.

Chairman Umbarger thanked all involved in the negotiation of this subject of technical education authority and the tax credits.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m. The next meeting was scheduled for January 28, 2008.