

MINUTES OF THE
SENATE EDUCATION STANDING COMMITTEE
Wednesday, February 7, 2007
Room W135, West Office Building, State Capitol Complex

Members Present: Sen. Margaret Dayton, Committee Chair
Sen. Greg Bell
Sen. Curtis Bramble
Sen. Lyle Hillyard
Sen. Pat Jones
Sen. Darin Peterson
Sen. Ross Romero
Sen. Howard A. Stephenson

Staff Present: Phillip V. Dean, Policy Analyst
Dee S. Larsen, Attorney
Norda Shepard, Secretary

Public Speakers Present: Rep. Ronda Menlove
Rep. Stephen H. Urquhart
Dr. Teddi Safman, Utah System of Higher Education
Bryant Farnsworth, Dean of Education, Utah Valley State College
Holly Langton, Utah PTA
Steve Peterson, Utah School Boards Association
Kim Campbell, Utah Education Association
Mike Jerman, Vice President, Utah Tax Payers Association
Hillary Sterling
Laura Johnson
Brenda Larner
Oscar Castro
Marco Diaz
Leah Barker, Children's First Utah
Kristi Saunders
Vik Arnold, Utah Education Association
Dee Burningham
Lisa Kirchenherter, Park City School Board
G.G. Brandt, Utah League of Women Voters
Becky Utley
Brent Garner
Pat Fender, American Federation of Teachers of Utah

A list of visitors and a copy of handouts are filed with the committee minutes.

Committee Chair Dayton called the meeting to order at 2:27 p.m.

1. H.B. 241 Appropriation for Terrel H. Bell Program

Rep. Ronda Menlove presented the bill and distributed a handout.

Dr. Teddi Safman, Utah System of Higher Education, distributed a handout and spoke in support. Bryant Farnsworth, Dean of Education, Utah Valley State College; Holly Langton, Utah PTA; Steve Peterson, Utah School Boards Association and Utah Superintendents Association, and Kim Campbell, Utah Education Association, spoke in support.

MOTION: Sen. Jones moved to pass H.B. 241, Appropriation for Terrel H. Bell Program, out of committee with a favorable recommendation.

The motion passed unanimously with Sens. Bell, Bramble, Romero and Stephenson absent at the time of the vote.

2. H.B. 148 Education Vouchers

Rep. Stephen H. Urquhart presented the bill.

Those speaking in support of the bill were Mike Jerman, Vice President, Utah Tax Payers Association; Hillary Sterling; Laura Johnson; Brenda Larner; Oscar Castro; Marco Diaz; Leah Barker, Children's First Utah, and Kristi Saunders.

Those speaking in opposition to the bill were Vik Arnold, Utah Education Association; Dee Burningham; Lisa Kirchenherter, Park City School Board; G.G. Brandt, Utah League of Women Voters; Becky Utley; Steve Peterson, Utah School Boards Association and Utah Superintendents Association; Pat Fender, American Federation of Teachers of Utah, and Brent Garner, who also distributed a handout.

MOTION: Sen. Stephenson moved to pass H.B. 148, Education Vouchers, out of committee with a favorable recommendation.

The motion passed with Sens. Jones and Romero voting in opposition and Sen. Hillyard absent at the time of the vote.

MOTION: Sen. Stephenson moved to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Hillyard absent at the time of the vote.

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Chair Dayton adjourned the meeting at 3:57 p.m.

Minutes were reported by Norda Shepard, Secretary.

Sen. Margaret Dayton, Committee Chair