MINUTES OF THE
SENATE EDUCATION STANDING COMMITTEE
Wednesday, February 8, 2006
Room W130, West Office Building, State Capitol Complex

Members Present: Sen. David L. Thomas, Committee Chair
Sen. Patrice M. Arent
Sen. Dan R. Eastman
Sen. Karen Hale
Sen. Mark Madsen
Sen. Howard A. Stephenson

Members Excused: Sen. D. Chris Buttars

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

Public Speakers Present: Rep. Margaret Dayton
Rep. Ronda Menlove
Vik Arnold, Utah Education Association
Greg Soter, Parent
Carl Boyington, Secondary School Principals Association
Gayle Ruzicka, Utah Eagle Forum
Steve Peterson, Utah State School Boards Associations
Creighton Horton, Parent
Kaily Horton, Student
Paul Mero, Sutherland Institute
Mark Cluff, State Board of Education

A list of visitors is filed with the committee minutes.

Committee Chair Thomas called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m.

Chair Thomas announced that Sen. Buttars was in the hospital and S.B. 97 and S.B. 78 would not be heard today.

MOTION: Sen. Arent moved to approve the minutes of February 3, 2006. The motion passed unanimously with Sens. Eastman and Stephenson absent for the vote.
1. **H.C.R. 2 Resolution Promoting Utah's Legislators Back to School Program**

   Rep. Margaret Dayton presented the resolution. Vik Arnold, Utah Education Association; Greg Soter, parent; and Carl Boyington, Secretary, Secondary School Principals Association; spoke in support.

   **MOTION:** Sen. Arent moved to pass H.C.R. 2, "Resolution Promoting Utah's Legislators Back to School Program," out with a favorable recommendation.

   The motion passed unanimously.

   **MOTION:** Sen. Stephenson moved to place H.C.R.2 on the Consent Calendar.

   The motion passed unanimously.

2. **S.B. 204 High School Graduation Amendments**

   Sen. Madsen presented the bill and the proposed amendments.

   **MOTION:** Sen. Madsen moved to amend S.B. 204 with the following amendments:

   1. **Page 3, Lines 59 through 60:**

      59   (1) A student enrolled in a high school in this state [may] shall receive a diploma from the high school in which the student is enrolled, and a student that attends a home school [may] shall, upon request of the student's parent or guardian.

   The motion passed with Sens. Arent and Hale voting in opposition.

   Gayle Ruzicka, Utah Eagle Forum; Creighton Horton, parent; Kaily Horton, student; Paul Mero, Sutherland Institute; and Mark Cluff, State Board of Education spoke in support. Carl Boyington, Secondary School Principals Association, and Steve Peterson, Utah State School Boards Association, spoke in opposition.

   **MOTION:** Sen. Eastman moved to pass S.B. 204, High School Graduation Amendments, out with a favorable recommendation.

   The motion passed with Sens. Arent and Hale voting in opposition.
3. **H.B. 81  Tuition Program for Students Seeking Teacher Licensure**

   Rep. Ronda Menlove presented the bill. Steve Peterson, Utah State School Boards Associations and Rhonda Rose, Utah PTA, spoke in support.

   **MOTION:** Sen. Arent moved to pass H.B. 81, Tuition Program for Students Seeking Teacher Licensure, out with a favorable recommendation.

   The motion passed unanimously.

   **MOTION:** Sen. Hale moved to adjourn.

   Chair Thomas adjourned the meeting at 9:14 a.m.

   Minutes were reported by Norda Shepard, Secretary.

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Sen. David L. Thomas, Chair