

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 ;  
upon request of the student's parent or guardian, a diploma from the  
60 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