

MINUTES OF THE  
SENATE EDUCATION STANDING COMMITTEE  
Monday, February 20, 2006  
Room W130, West Office Building, State Capitol Complex

Members Present: Sen. David L. Thomas, Committee Chair  
Sen. Patrice M. Arent  
Sen. D. Chris Buttars  
Sen. Karen Hale  
Sen. Mark Madsen  
Sen. Howard A. Stephenson

Members Excused: Sen. Dan R. Eastman

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

Public Speakers Present: Scott Soulier  
David Johnson, Attorney General's Office  
Rep. Neil B. Hendrickson  
Valeria Sepulveda, Foreign Exchange Student  
Conestanea Urrida, Foreign Exchange Student  
Shelley Angerhofer, Exchange Student  
Joanna Tucker, Rotary Exchange Host Mother  
Kelly Atkinson, Rotary Club  
Pat Rusk, Rotary Exchange Host Mother  
Rep. Eric Hutchings  
Carol Lear, State Board of Education  
Ronda Rose, Utah PTA  
Steven Peterson, Utah Association of School Boards

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

Committee Chair Thomas called the meeting to order at 4:16 p.m.

**1. Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION:** Sen. Arent moved to approve the minutes of February 17, 2006. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Hale absent for the vote.

**2. S.B. 97 Student Club Amendments (Sen. D. C. Buttars)**

Sen. Buttars presented the bill and proposed amendments.

**MOTION:** Sen. Buttars moved to amend S.B. 97 with the following amendments:

1. *Page 4, Lines 113 through 120:*

- 113           (8) "Involve human sexuality" ~~{means}~~ includes :
- 114           (a) presenting information in violation of laws governing sex education;
- 115           ~~{(b) promoting or encouraging self-labeling by students in terms of sexual~~  
~~orientation;~~
- 116           ~~—(c) disclosing attitudes or personal conduct of students or members of their~~  
~~families~~
- 117           regarding sexual orientation, attitudes, or belief;
- 118           ~~—(d) advocating, approving, or engaging in sexual activity outside of marriage;~~  
~~or }~~
- (b) advocating or engaging in sexual activity outside of legally recognized  
marriage or forbidden by state law; or
- 119           ~~{(e)}~~    (c) presenting or discussing information relating to the use of  
contraceptive devices or
- 120           substances, regardless of whether the use is for purposes of contraception or personal  
health.

The motion passed unanimously.

Scott Soulier spoke in support of the bill. David Johnson from the General Attorney's Office answered committee questions.

**MOTION:** Sen. Buttars moved to pass S.B. 97, Student Club Amendments, out of committee as amended with a favorable recommendation.

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

3. **H.B. 202 Foreign Exchange Student Amendments (Rep. N. Hendrickson)**

Rep. Neil B. Hendrickson presented the bill. The following people spoke in support of the bill:

Valeria Sepulveda, Foreign Exchange Student  
Conestanea Urrida, Foreign Exchange Student  
Shelley Angerhofer, Exchange Student

Joanna Tucker, Rotary Exchange Host Mother  
Kelly Atkinson, Rotary Club  
Pat Rusk, Rotary Exchange Host Mother

**MOTION:** Sen. Stephenson moved to amend H.B. 202 with the following amendments:

1. *Page 2, Lines 39 through 48:*

39           (2) (a) The number of foreign exchange students that may be counted for the purpose  
40 of apportioning state monies shall be the lesser of:  
41           [~~(a)~~] (i) four times the number of foreign exchange students:  
42           [~~(i)~~] (A) enrolled in the school district or charter school; and  
43           [~~(ii)~~] (B) sponsored by an exchange student agency approved by the district's local  
44 school board or charter school's governing board; or  
45           [~~(b)~~] (ii) four times the number of students that have withdrawn from the school  
46 district or charter  
47 school to participate in a foreign exchange program in a foreign country.  
48           (b) Notwithstanding the limitation of Subsection (2)(a)(ii), {~~a~~} four foreign  
exchange {~~student~~} students  
48 may be counted for the purpose of apportioning state monies if the corresponding student  
that

The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Sen. Arent moved to pass H.B. 202, Foreign Exchange Student Amendments, out of committee as amended with a favorable recommendation.

The motion passed unanimously.

4. **H.B. 253 School Truancy Amendments (Rep. E. Hutchings)**

Rep. Eric Hutchings presented the bill and proposed amendments.

**MOTION:** Sen. Buttars moved to amend H.B. 253 with the following amendments:

1. *Page 8, Lines 222 through 224*  
*House Floor Amendments*  
*2-13-2006:*

- 222           (2) Except as provided in Section 53A-11-102 or 53A-11-102.5, the parent of a  
223 school-age minor shall enroll and send the school-age minor to a public ~~H~~→ {+} or  
regularly  
223a established  
224 private {+} ~~H~~ school during the school year of the district in which the school-age  
minor resides.

2. *Page 9, Lines 261 through 263*  
*House Floor Amendments*  
*2-13-2006:*

- 261           (1) Except as provided in Section 53A-11-102 or 53A-11-102.5, a school-age  
minor who is enrolled in a public school  
262 shall attend the public ~~H~~→ [~~or regularly established private~~] ~~H~~ school in which the  
school-age  
262a minor is  
263 enrolled.

The motion passed unanimously.

Carol Lear, State Board of Education spoke in support of the bill.

**MOTION:** Sen. Hale moved to amend H.B. 253 with the following amendments:

1. *Page 7a, Lines 212h through 212i*  
*House Committee Amendments*  
*1-27-2006:*

- 212h           (1) the school-age minor is exhibiting academic excellence: ~~and~~ or  
212i           (2) the extended absence will not adversely impact the school-age minor's

The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Sen. Stephenson moved to amend H.B. 253 with the following amendments:

1. *Page 7a, Lines 212e through 212g*  
*House Committee Amendments*  
*1-27-2006:*

- 212e           valid excuse under Subsection 53A-11-101(9)(e), a local school board or school district

- 212f     shall  
          {~~strongly consider approving~~}     approve the absence if the local school board or  
          school district determines
- 212g     that:

The motion passed unanimously.

Ronda Rose, Utah PTA and Steven Peterson, Utah Association of School Boards spoke in support of the bill.

**MOTION:** Sen. Hale moved to pass H.B. 253, School Truancy Amendments, out of committee as amended with a favorable recommendation.

The motion passed unanimously.

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

Chair Thomas adjourned the meeting at 5:29 p.m.

Minutes were reported by Norda Shepard, Secretary.

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Sen. David L. Thomas, Chair