

**MINUTES OF HOUSE EDUCATION
STANDING COMMITTEE**

January 30, 2007

Room W135, West Office Building, State Capitol Complex

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rep. Gregory H. Hughes, Chair
Rep. Patrick Painter, Vice Chair
Rep. Sylvia S. Andersen
Rep. Brad L. Dee
Rep. Craig A. Frank
Rep. James R. Gowans
Rep. Kory M. Holdaway
Rep. Bradley G. Last
Rep. Rebecca D. Lockhart
Rep. Carol Spackman Moss
Rep. Merlynn T. Newbold
Rep. LaWanna "Lou" Shurtliff
Rep. Kenneth W. Sumsion
Rep. Stephen Urquhart
Rep. Mark A. Wheatley

STAFF PRESENT: Constance C. Steffen, Policy Analyst
Diane Obeshaw, Committee Secretary
Dee S Larsen, Associate General Counsel

Note: List of visitors and copy of handouts are filed with committee minutes.

Rep. Hughes called the meeting to order at 3:27 p.m.

MOTION: Rep. Newbold moved to amend the minutes of January 26, 2007 to reflect that she was absent for the votes on H.B. 77. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Rep. Gowans moved to adopt the minutes of January 23, and January 26, 2007 as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

H.B. 148 Education Vouchers

Rep. Urquhart introduced the bill which creates a program to award scholarships to students to attend a private school. Mr. Kenneth Johnson, Milwaukee School Board, discussed Milwaukee's experience with vouchers.

MOTION: Rep. Frank moved to amend the bill as follows:

1. *Page 1, Lines 18 through 23:*

18 scholarship payments; and

19 ▶ allows a school district to retain in enrollment a student that transfers to a private
20 school for a period of five years, with a deduction equal to the average scholarship
21 amount {~~;~~and
22 ~~allows the State Board of Education to transfer unused scholarship monies~~
23 ~~to the~~
~~Minimum School Program~~ } .

2. Page 2, Line 43:

43 {~~53A-1a-812, Utah Code Annotated 1953~~}

3. Page 4, Lines 106 through 108:

106 (3) (a) To receive a scholarship, the parent of a student shall submit an application
for
107 the scholarship to the board by the June 1 preceding the school year for which a
scholarship is
108 sought, except the deadline for submitting an application for the 2007-08 school years is
July {~~1~~} 15 .

4. Page 4, Lines 112 through 114:

112 (4) The board shall award scholarships by the July 1 preceding the school year for
113 which a scholarship is sought, except the deadline for awarding scholarships for the
2007-08
114 school year is August {~~1~~} 15 , 2007.

5. Page 11, Lines 316 through 322:

316 statewide. .
(5) The monies deducted from a school district's minimum school program funds
as provided in Subsection (4) shall be deposited into the Uniform School Fund.
317 {~~Section 8. Section 53A-1a-808 is enacted to read:~~
318 ~~53A-1a-808. Transfer of balance.~~
319 ~~After awarding the scholarships and budgeting for mitigation monies under this~~
~~part,~~
320 ~~the board shall transfer any remaining balance appropriated for scholarships or~~
~~mitigation~~
321 ~~monies to the kindergarten and grades 1-12 basic programs established under~~

Chapter 17a,

322 Minimum School Program Act.}

Renumber remaining sections accordingly.

The motion passed unanimously.

The following spoke in support of the bill:

Hillary Stirling
Robert Higgins
Rachael Ringwood
Sean Davis
Teresa Wilcock
Richard and Angela Green
Carolyn Sharette
Ruth Davis
Laura Johnson
Cheryl Earl
Steven Mouritsen
Michelle Dotson
Leah Barker, Children First
Darren Jenkins
Rep. Carl Wimmer

The following spoke in opposition to the bill:

Douglas Meredith
Vic Arnold, Utah Education Association
Doug Nelson, Salt Lake City Board of Education
Patrick Tanner, Utah School Boards Association
Kim Burningham, State Board of Education
Kim Jensen
Kathy Tenney
Carmen Snow, Utah PTA
Patti Harrington, Utah Superintendent of Education
Lisa Johnson
Steven Peterson, Utah School Board of Education, Utah Superintendent of Education
Geoff W. Leonard, Utah School Employees Association
Heather Bennett, Utah Board of Education
Paul Reimann
Dr. Betty Makkinsen

Rob Miller
Dee Burningham

MOTION: Rep. Lockhart moved to pass the bill out favorably as amended. The motion passed with Rep. Gowans, Rep. Holdaway, Rep. Shurtliff, Rep. Last, and Rep. Wheatley voting in opposition of the bill.

Rep. Moss gave a grammar lesson on the proper use of "effect" and "affect".

MOTION: Rep. Holdaway moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:05 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Rep. Gregory H. Hughes, Chair