

Early Childhood Policy and Budget Division
March 22, 2005
3:00 p.m. Room 123
Chair, Senator John C. Hottinger

Present:

Hottinger, Chair
Bob Kierlin
Gary Kubly
Sean Nienow
Linda Scheid
Dan Sparks
Betsy Wergin

Absent:

Sandy Pappas

Senator Hottinger called the meeting to order at 3:45 p.m. There was a tour of the Hubb Center before the meeting.

A quorum was present.

Members and Staff introduced themselves to the audience.

AGENDA ITEM #1: **David Lawrence, Jr.**, Founder and President, Early Childhood Initiative Foundation.

- After an introduction from Senator Hottinger, Mr. Lawrence gave an overview of early childhood education in Florida. After editing the Miami Herald, Mr. Lawrence decided the best thing he could do for the future would be to get kids ready for first grade. Mr. Lawrence helped collect enough ballots to get an initiative on the Florida ballot, which would give all kids access to quality preschool.
- Mr. Lawrence described the final outcome as:
 - A respectful partnership between educators and parents
 - A practical investment in kids
 - Totally pro-family, as “this is everybody’s child”

AGENDA ITEM #2: **S.F. 894-Pappas**: Adult basic education aid modifications and immigrants’ adult literacy grant program.

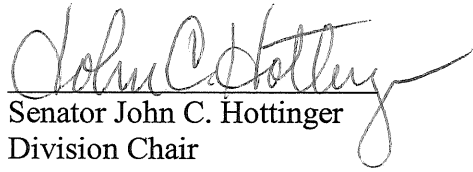
MOTION: Senator Hottinger moves the A-1 Oral Amendment.

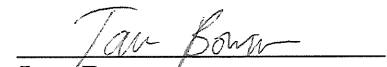
→ Motion adopted.

- Eric Nesheim, Executive Director, Minnesota Literacy Council, explained the bill to the committee. He also spoke to the good that comes from literacy. Mr. Nesheim explained how illiteracy makes families suffer. Minnesota has one of the most efficient ABE programs, and we should be encouraged to continue funding the programs.
- Vicki Ostrom, President, Literacy Minnesota, explained how ABE is cost-effective, and it transforms lives. Ms. Ostrom supports the 20/80 reimbursement, and the money from the \$20 cap should be put back into ABE.
- Tom Cytron-Hyson, Coordinator, St. Paul Community Literacy Consortium, spoke about several issues. First, Mr. Cytron-Hyson noted that a 3% increase in funding would help. He also mentioned that the level of refugees coming to Minnesota is up, and will not stop anytime soon. Lastly, ABE helps with specific needs of new Minnesotans.
- Stephanie Sanchez, Adult Diploma Program, and mother of two has been greatly helped by the Hubb Center. The Hubb Center helped the needs of her hearing impaired daughter.
- Jesse Wiesinger, Adult Diploma Program, stated very eloquently and effectively the reasons the Hubb Center has helped him. He is able to write essays, type, and has been accepted to the Marine Corp.
- Senator Hottinger gave encouraging closing words.

Senator Hottinger adjourned the meeting at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:


Senator John C. Hottinger
Division Chair


Jane Bowman
Division Secretary

Early Childhood Policy and Budget Division

Chair: Sen. John Hottinger

Tuesday, March 22, 2005

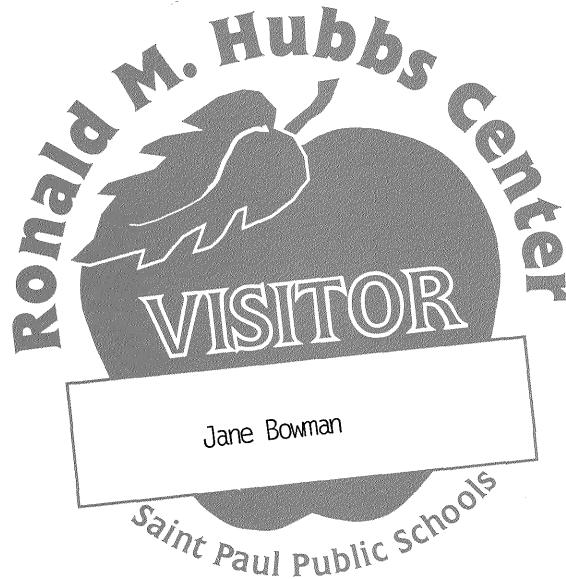
3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Hubbs Center for Lifelong Learning

David Lawrence, Jr., Founder and President, Early Childhood Initiative Foundation

S.F. 894-Pappas: Adult basic education aid modifications and immigrants adult literacy grant program.

1. Eric Nesheim, Executive Director, Minnesota Literacy Council
2. Vicki Ostrom, President, Literacy Minnesota
3. Tom Cytron-Hyson, Coordinator, St. Paul Community Literacy Consortium
4. Stephanie Sanchez, Adult Diploma Program
5. Jesse Wiesinger, Adult Diploma Program
6. Dominique Jackson, GED



Senate Committee Meeting Log

Committee Name: Early Childhood Education Policy & Budget Division
 Date: 3/22/05 Day: Tuesday Start Time: 3:48

Agenda

Bill # (or Topic)	S.F. 894
Author	Sen. Pappas
Short Descriptor	Modification of Adult Basic Education.
Action(s)	Author's amendment, verbal ((laid out))
Bill # (or Topic)	
Author	
Short Descriptor	
Action(s)	
Bill # (or Topic)	
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Action(s)	
Bill # (or Topic)	
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Adjournment Time: _____

Recorded by: _____ Date: _____

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