Early Childhood Policy and Budget Division **April 19, 2005**

3:00 p.m. Room 123 Chair, Senator John C. Hottinger

Present:

Absent:

Hottinger, Chair

Bob Kierlin

Gary Kubly

Sean Nienow

Sandy Pappas

Linda Scheid

Dan Sparks

Betsy Wergin

Senator Hottinger called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

A quorum was present.

Senator Hottinger opened with how the committee is going to approach the budget.

AGENDA ITEM #1: S.F. 238-Olson: Authorizing a levy for certain utility costs of facilities used primarily for community education programs.

- Senator Olson introduced the bill.
- Melanie DeLuca, Director of Community Education, Orono, talked about how all their buildings help with early child care and education. Ms. DeLuca spoke about how the money helps make good use of the building.
- Sue Rheingans, Director of Community Education, Cannon Falls, gave a rural perspective of the bill.
- Sally Latimer, Director of Community Education, Roseville, said her community center gets 3, 460 weekly visitors. It is a center for the community, and they want to keep the

MOTION: Senator Wergin moved an Oral Amendment. Page 1, Line 11, after "providing," insert "district operated."

→ Motion carried.

The bill was laid on the table for possible inclusion in the early childhood finance bill.

AGENDA ITEM #2: S.F. 245-Marty: Sections 2-8.

- Senator Marty introduced the bill. The bill undoes the cuts from two years ago. Senator Marty said that we keep slipping backwards; we need to spend money on children. We should spend more money on these programs.
- Tammy Felde, mother, believes that ECFE goes a long way to help families raise their children.
- Hans Felde, age 4, said hello.
- Ann Schulman, ECFE parents, spoke highly of ECFE.
- Ben Schulman, age 4, said hello as well.

MOTION: Senator Wergin moved the A-1 Amendment.

→ Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM #3: S.F. 2170-Scheid: Authorizing planning grants for school readiness projects.

- Senator Scheid introduced the bill.
- John Fredericksen, Assistant Superintendent, Osseo Schools, spoke about this bill helping people get their kids ready to learn.
- Jonette Zuercher, spoke for Myrna Kragness, Mayor, Brooklyn Center. She emphasized foreign born and low-income people who need help.
- Steven Kline is the Executive Director, Community Emergency Assistance Program, of Ramsey, Hennepin, and Anoka Counties. Mr. Kline spoke that this programs makes long-

- term differences in real peoples' lives. This project is on the cutting-edge, and will be replicated throughout the state.
- Julie Quist, EdWatch, opposed the bill. Ms. Quist spoke about how targeted, and well-defined assistance is great, but this bill is too broad. It sets up a "Nanny-state." Government is over-stepping their bounds.
- Jonette Zuecher talked about what it means to be "at-risk."

The bill was laid on the table for possible inclusion in the early childhood finance bill.

Senator Hottinger adjourned the meeting at 4:17. 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, April 19, 2005 3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Room 123 State Capitol

S.F. 238-Olson: Authorizing a levy for certain utility costs of facilities used primarily for community education programs.

- Melanie DeLuca, Director of Community Education, Orono
- Sally Latimer, Director of Community Education, Roseville
- Sue Rheingans

S.F. 245-Marty: Sections 2-8.

S.F. 2170-Scheid: Authorizing planning grants for school readiness projects.

- John Fredericksen, Assistant Superintendent, Osseo Schools
- Myrna Kragness, Mayor, Brooklyn Center
- Steven Kline, Executive Director, Community Emergency Assistance Program

S.F. 1853-Wergin: Providing for early childhood family support.

Senate Committee Meeting Log

Committee Name:	19th April Day: Tresday Start Time: 3:14 pm
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