

Education Policy Committee
March 28, 2006
3-5:30p.m. and Evening Session 7:00 p.m.
Capitol Room 112
Senator Steve Kelley

Members Present:

Senator Steve Kelley	Senator Tarryl Clark	Senator David Hann
Senator Rod Skoe	Senator Gen Olson	Senator LeRoy Stumpf
Senator Tom Saxhaug	Senator Geoff Michel	Senator David Tomassoni

Members Absent:

Senator Michele Bachmann

Sen. Kelley called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m.

The Committee heard testimony for SF 3271 from Sen. Kiscaden, of which she is chief author.

The Committee first heard testimony from Mike Vekich, Rochester Higher Education Committee. Mr. Vekich spoke in support of the bill.

Sen. Senjem spoke in support of the bill.

Valerie Halverson Pace, Community Relations Manager, IBM, Greater Rochester Area University Center Board. Ms. Pace spoke in support of the bill.

Robert Jones, Senior Vice President, Academic Administrator, University of Minnesota,

Linda Baer, President/Vice Chancellor, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, 350 Wells Fargo Place, 30 Seventh St East, St. Paul, MN 55101, spoke in support of the bill.

Sen. Kiscaden referenced the "Letters of Support Packet."

Sen. Skoe moved the A-2 amendment with the following oral amendment:
on Page 1, line 7, insert "unnecessary" after avoid

The motion prevailed.

Sen. Skoe moved the A06-1244 amendment.

The motion prevailed.

Sen. Skoe moved that SF 3271 pass and be re-referred to Finance.

The motion prevailed.

The Committee heard testimony for SF 2610 from Sen. Day, of which he is chief author.

Richard Kolodziejsk, Business Agent, MAPE spoke in support of the bill. Mr. Kolodziejsk referenced "Statute Revision Proposal Information."

Sen. Olson moved that SF 2610 be laid over for possible inclusion in the Education Omnibus bill.

The motion prevailed.

The Committee heard testimony for SF 3111 from Sen. Saxhaug, of which he is chief author.

Don Langan, Superintendent, 1515 11th Street, International Falls, MN 56649, spoke in support of the bill. Mr. Langan referenced "Minnesota Statutes, 2005, 124D.095 and 124D.096."

Tom Kalar, Teacher, International Falls High School, 403 Shorewood Drive, International Falls, MN 56649, spoke in support of the bill.

Kim Ross, Superintendent of Schools, Houston, 306 West Elm Houston, MN 55943, spoke in opposition of the bill.

Steve Kerska, Director of the Minnesota Center of Online Learning, 306 West Elm Houston, MN 55943, spoke in opposition of the bill.

Jonathon Voss, Coordinator of the Northern Star Online Program, shared concerns associated with the bill.

Morgan Brown, Minnesota Department of Education, 1500 Highway 36 West, Roseville, MN 55113, shared concerns associated with the bill.

Don Langan, Superintendent, 1515 11th Street, International Falls, MN 56649, returned and answered questions for the committee.

Sen. Kelley moved that SF 3111 be laid over for possible inclusion in the Education Omnibus bill.

The motion prevailed.

The Committee heard testimony for SF 2977 from Sen. Pappas, of which she is chief author. The SF 2977 Research Summary was distributed to the Committee.

Amy Brugh, Public Policy Manager, Minnesota Aids Project, 1400 Park Ave. Minneapolis, MN 55404, spoke in support of the bill.

Bridged Riley, MOAPP, 1619 Dayton Avenue, Suite 111, St. Paul, MN 55104, spoke in support of the bill. Ms. Riley referenced, "Sexuality Education for Life-Minnesota."

Tom Pritchard, Minnesota Family Council, 2855 Anthony Lane South, Suite 150, Minneapolis, MN 55418-3265, spoke in opposition of the bill.

Sen. Tomassoni moved that SF 2977 be laid over for possible inclusion in the Education Omnibus bill.

The motion prevailed.

The Committee heard testimony for SF 2826 from Sen. Clark, of which she is chief author. A letter from Lori Lockhart was distributed to the Committee.

Sen. Dille spoke in support of the bill.

Pat Welter, Former Principal of North Junior High, St. Cloud, 625 Roosevelt Rd, St. Cloud, MN 56301, spoke in support of the bill. Ms. Welter referenced, "Changing Lives: Character Curriculum."

Larry McGuire, President, Mark1, 304 Sibley Ave. S., Litchfield, MN 55355, spoke in support of the bill.

Sen. Clark moved that SF 2826 be laid over for possible inclusion in the Education Omnibus bill.

The motion prevailed.

The Committee heard testimony for SF 2585 from Sen. Tomassoni, of which he is chief author. A letter from David Orbuch was distributed to the Committee.

Sen. Tomassoni moved the following oral amendment:
Page 2, line 15, delete grade 6 and insert grade 8

The motion prevailed.

Bradley Peterson, Senior Advocacy Director, American Heart Association, spoke in support of the bill.

Sen. Tomassoni moved that SF 2585 be laid over for possible inclusion in the Education Omnibus bill.

The motion prevailed.

The Committee recessed at 6:00pm

The Committee reconvened at 7:10pm

The Committee heard testimony for SF 3489 from Sen. Stumpf, of which he is chief author. Sen. Stumpf referenced "National Conference of State Legislatures: Federal Role in Elementary and Secondary Education," "National School Board Association Calls President's Budget A Mockery," and "Communities for Quality Education: No Child Left Behind 2006 State Legislative Activity."

Sen. Kelley referenced the New York Times article, "Schools Cut Back Subjects to Push Reading and Math."

Sen. Stumpf moved that SF 3489 pass.

The motion prevailed.

The Committee heard testimony for SF 3588 from Sen. Stumpf, of which he is chief author.

Denise Meyer, Founder and Executive Director of Signbridge, spoke in support of the bill. Ms. Meyer referenced "Research Supporting the Use of American Sign Language with Young, Hearing Children" and "Twenty Signs to Get Started."

Mary Nienow, Grasstops Organization, discussed her organization and was available for questions.

Sen. Stumpf moved that SF 3588 be laid over for possible inclusion in the Education Omnibus bill.

The motion prevailed.

The Committee heard testimony for SF 3412 from Sen. Skoe, which he is chief author. The SF 3412 Research Summary was distributed to the Committee.

Sen. Skoe moved the A-1 amendment.

The motion prevailed.

Sen. Skoe moved the A-4 amendment with the following oral amendment:
Page 1, line 2, after 11, insert ", 14 and 15"

The motion prevailed.

David Peterson, Minnesota School Operators Association, spoke in support of the bill.

Kurt Schumann, Minnesota School Operators Association, spoke in support of the bill.

Tom Melcher, Minnesota Department of Education, testified regarding Section 4: Cost Allocation.

Sen. Skoe moved that SF 3412 be laid over for possible inclusion in the Education Omnibus bill.

The motion prevailed.

The Committee heard testimony for SF 3535 from Sen. Clark, of which she is chief author. Sen. Clark referenced "National Federation of the Blind: Resolution A05-01 Regarding the Inclusion of the Word 'Blind' in Special Education Definition."

Joyce Scanlon, National Federation for the Blind, 1800 Johnson Street, Baltimore, MD 21230, spoke in support of the bill.

Sen. Clark moved that SF 3535 be laid over for possible inclusion in the Education Committee Omnibus bill.

The motion prevailed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.



Senator Steve Kelley
Chairman



Alice Carlson Seuffert
Legislative Assistant

Education Committee

Senator Steve Kelley, Chair

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

3:00-5:30 p.m.

Room 112, Capitol

Agenda

- I. SF 3271: Kiscaden
University of Minnesota Branch in Rochester
 - Linda Baer, President/Vice Chancellor, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities

- II. SF 2610: Day
Interpreter Requirements for Deaf Students
 - Richard Kolodziejsk
 - Mary Hartnett

- III. SF 3111: Saxhaug
Online Learning Options Act Modifications
 - Kim Ross, Superintendent of Schools, Houston
 - Steve Kerska, Director of the Minnesota Center of Online Learning
 - Jon Voss, Coordinator of the Northern Star Online Program
 - Morgan Brown, Minnesota Department of Education

- IV. SF 2585: Tomassoni
Health & Physical Education Requirements

- V. SF 3489: Stumpf
NCLB Resolution

- VI. SF 3588: Stumpf
Sign Language Pilot Program
 - Denise Meyer, Founder and Executive Director of Signbridge
 - Mary Flood-Maneely, Parent
 - Mary Nienow, Grasstops Organization

- VII. SF 2977: Pappas
Comprehensive family life and sexuality education programs
 - Bridged Riley, MOAPP
 - Amy Brugh, Minnesota Aids Project
 - Tom Pritchard, Minnesota Family Council

VIII. SF 2826: Clark

Character Development Revenue

- Larry McGuire, President, Mark1
- Pat Welter, Principal of North Junior High, St. Cloud

IX. SF 3535: Clark

Definition of Disability to include Blindness

- Joyce Scanlon, National Federation for the Blind

X. SF 3412: Skoe

School Transportation