

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE  
50TH LEGISLATURE

January 9, 1987

The meeting of the education subcommittee was called to order by Chairman Dennis Nathe at 8:10 a.m. on Friday, January 9, 1987 in Room 104 of the State Capitol.

ROLL CALL: All members were present. Also present were Dori Nielson, Jim Haubein and Jane Hamman of the Legislative Fiscal Analysts office, Norm Rostocki of the Office of Budget and Program Planning and Deb Thompson, Secretary.

EXECUTIVE ACTION: FIRE SERVICES TRAINING SCHOOL

Personal Services: Senator Jacobson moved to accept the LFA current level, of \$162,571 in FY 88 and \$162,964 in FY89, without vacancy savings, for personal services.

Discussion followed. Representative Peck inquired as to the way the budget reductions had been taken. Some reductions in personal services were from early retirement and did not reflect the full FTE cost. The motion PASSED unanimously.

Operating Expenses: The executive budget (Exhibit 2) should include \$2,000 more annually for educational supplies representing the federal grant expenditures. The executive budget differences included \$5,000 more annually in both travel and contracted services for increased needs because of one FTE reduction for the next biennium.

Senator Jacobson moved to accept the LFA current level and add into that \$5,000 each year for travel.

Senator Jacobson modified her motion to bring the total annual increase to \$5,000. Discussion followed. Current level increases travel by \$1,675 annually and does not increase contracted services because three computers were added in FY 86. The motion FAILED on a vote of 4 to 2.

Senator Jacobson moved to accept current level operating expenses. The motion PASSED unanimously.

Equipment: (4-1-A-396) Senator Jacobson made a motion to accept the current level of \$2,000. The motion PASSED unanimously.

Funding: Senator Jacobson made the motion to accept current level funding for the Fire Services Training School budget. The motion PASSED unanimously.

EXECUTIVE ACTION: SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND BLIND

(4-1-A-477)

The budget for the School for the Deaf and Blind is addressed separately for each of the five programs.

Administration: Senator Jacobson moved to adopt the current level in personal services, operating expenses and funding during both years of the biennium for a budget total of \$196,649 in FY 1988 and \$179,838 in FY 1989. The motion PASSED unanimously.

General Services: Senator Hammond moved to accept current level personal services. The motion PASSED unanimously.

A motion was made by Senator Jacobson to accept current level operating expenses. The motion PASSED unanimously.

The funding will be included later in order to incorporate the equipment costs which will be determined as an agency total and prorated to the programs. The agency has the flexibility to move money between categories.

(4-1-B-035)

Student Services: Several issues were discussed concerning the differences in the executive budget and LFA current level for the aggregate positions. The school director indicated that the cottage life attendants' positions are sufficient in the LFA current level budget. However, the school feels the LFA current budget for the house parents' positions, is not adequate and must have the executive budget to provide the availability of substitutes.

(308) Senator Hammond moved to accept current level personal services for FY 88 and FY 89 with the inclusion of the executive proposal for \$14,939 for fiscal year 1988 and \$14,907 for fiscal year 1989 for house parent aggregate position under personal services. The motion PASSED unanimously.

Operating expenses include a transportation issue. Jane Hamman of the LFA presented a report concerning the historical basis for the present position. The school provides transportation and cost for the students to return to their homes approximately twelve times per year.

Dori Nielson of the LFA (4-1-B-533) presented a brief summary of legal complications concerning reimbursement, for

transportation costs. Both the terms "pre-school" and "district" need clarification for transportation reimbursement purposes. Other complications would involve the need for approved transportation and statute revision to change from the 2/3 state funding for transportation and 1/3 local school district funding. The costs exceed the schedule, so extra funding would be needed. A bus reserve fund would also be required. The present van is not acceptable for approval as an approved transportation vehicle. A question of liability arose.

Representative Peck suggested that the committee explore the transportation issue to resolve the legal difficulties and perhaps address legislation if needed.

Representative Nathe (137) designated Senator Jacobson, Representative Peck, and Representative Iverson to contact a legal source to address the transportation question.

Senator Jacobson moved to accept current level operating expenses in student services with the condition that the committee will reopen this segment after hearing recommendations from the findings of the transportation subcommittee. The motion PASSED unanimously.

Senator Jacobson moved to accept current level funding for both years of the biennium plus the added amounts to increase house parent funding to the level of the executive budget. This section will later be reopened to address the the transportation costs. The motion PASSED unanimously.

Chairman Nathe called a meeting for approximately 4:00 p.m. of the same day. An 8:00 a.m. meeting for the next day, January 10, in Room 202A was also announced.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 9:58 a.m.

  
DENNIS NATHE, Chairman