

ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Fiftieth Legislature – Second Regular Session

**COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION,
INNOVATION AND REFORM**

Minutes of Meeting
Wednesday, February 1, 2012
House Hearing Room 1 -- 9:00 a.m.

Chairman Forese called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m. and attendance was noted by the secretary.

Members Present

Mr. Arredondo
Mrs. Goodale
Miss Reeve

Mr. Saldate
Mr. Vogt

Mrs. Barton, Vice-Chairman
Mr. Forese, Chairman

Members Absent

Mr. Chabin (excused)

Mr. Montenegro (excused)

Committee Action

HB2227 – DPA (7-0-0-2)
HB2347 – DP (6-0-0-3)
HB2349 – DPA (7-0-0-2)

HB2431 – DP (7-0-0-2)
HB2601 – DP (6-0-0-3)
HB2602 – DPA (7-0-0-2)

PRESENTATIONS

Brian Mueller, Chief Executive Officer, Grand Canyon University, distributed information about Grand Canyon University (Attachment 1), a private, Christian university which will soon have 12,000 students and 3,000 graduate students on campus every day. Mr. Mueller stressed that 80 percent of those students will be from Arizona and will pay about \$8,000 per year in tuition, when the average private school student pays close to \$35,000 per year.

Vice-Chairman Barton assumed the Chair.

Mr. Mueller explained that, in 2004, Grand Canyon extended its mission to include online courses and become a for-profit entity which offers education with no burden on the taxpayer.

Dr. William Pepicello, President, University of Phoenix, addressed the Members to explain that the University of Phoenix was founded in 1976 with a mission to provide access to higher education opportunities to working adults; it is the nation's largest private university offering

graduate and undergraduate degrees at more than 200 ground locations as well as online. He stated that the University of Phoenix has 370,000 students nationwide, has nine locations in Arizona and employs thousands of Arizonans as faculty and staff; Arizona is its home state. The University of Phoenix offers more than one hundred programs from associate through doctoral degrees, and students can attend class online, face-to-face or both.

Dr. Pepicello described the University's innovation in higher education:

- continuous enrollment
- advanced technology with digital textbooks and access to a digital library, virtual organizations, web tutorials, electronic portfolios
- PhoenixConnect, a closed social media network for students, faculty, staff, and alumni

The University also offers a free three-week orientation to new students to learn what the experience is like and to understand the financial commitment. He commented that the student population is diverse and is almost two-thirds female; the faculty population is diverse also.

Dr. Frank Ayers, Executive Vice President and Chief Academic Officer, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, explained that the University was founded in 1925 as a flight school by an Army aviator; it became a university in 1976 (Attachment 2). There are three campuses:

- Prescott, Arizona - 1,700 residential students
- Daytona Beach, Florida - 5,000 students
- a worldwide campus - 150 locations

Dr. Ayers explained that, while aviation is certainly a large part of what the University teaches, Embry-Riddle is primarily an engineering school. The University is also expanding into security and intelligence and is a veteran-friendly school.

Chairman Forese resumed the Chair.

Mrs. Goodale asked about the "chemtrail" controversy; Dr. Ayers replied that jet contrails are vaporization of water, not chemicals.

Dr. Kathleen H. Goepfinger, President and Chief Executive Officer, Midwestern University, addressed the Members to describe Midwestern University, which was founded in 1900; it is a nonprofit, private university that has never received state or federal funding, but receives funding from bond-holders who invest in the University. Midwestern has 5,000 full-time students, offering master and doctorate degrees in the health care field. She stated that the University is located in Glendale and does try to enroll in-state students.

Dr. Goepfinger explained the need for more medical residencies in Arizona because residents tend to stay in the state where they do their residency and set up practice. She also discussed the fact that Arizona does not have a college of veterinary medicine and that Midwestern is in the process of starting one for large animal medicine.

Dr. Mary I. Vanis, Campus Executive, Ottawa University – Arizona, informed the Members that Ottawa University is 147 years old and was established in Kansas as a tribal school. Today it is a private, nonprofit, Christian university with 10,000 students offering undergraduate and graduate

degrees; 6,000 of these students are on the three Arizona campuses in Phoenix, Surprise, and Chandler. Many of the students have blended programs with both online and ground coursework. Dr. Vanis described the annual schedule with six eight-week terms which provides an accelerated path towards degrees in liberal arts, business, and education. She described partnerships with community colleges which allow a very liberal transfer policy. She stressed that the tuition is competitive and that the University boasts 80 to 85 percent student retention.

Craig Jacob, President, DeVry University - Phoenix, stressed that, by 2018, 61 percent of the jobs in Arizona will require some post-secondary education. He informed the Members that DeVry is celebrating its 80th anniversary, beginning as a technical school focusing on electronics, and now offers associate-, bachelor-, and master-level programs across a spectrum of disciplines. The school has 100,000 students nationwide, 3,100 of whom are in Arizona, and the typical student is a working adult changing career disciplines.

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

HB2349 - medical marijuana; cardholder; campuses; prohibition – DO PASS AMENDED

Vice-Chairman Barton moved that HB2349 do pass.

Brooke White, House Majority Research Analyst, explained that HB2349 prohibits any person from using or possessing marijuana on a school campus or in a child care facility (Attachment 3).

Vice-Chairman Barton moved that the Reeve 17-line amendment dated 1/31/12 (Attachment 4) be adopted.

Ms. White explained that the Reeve amendment removes the definition of educational institution.

Miss Reeve, sponsor, explained that HB2349 will ensure that marijuana will not be allowed on campuses in order to be in compliance with federal law.

Kimberly MacEachern, Arizona Prosecuting Attorneys' Advisory Council, testified in support of HB2349. She described problems in Yavapai County dealing with methamphetamine.

Vice-Chairman Barton announced the names of those who signed up in support of HB2349 but did not speak:

Rebecca Baker, Maricopa County Attorney's Office
Christine Thompson, Arizona Board of Regents
Alisa Lyons, Arizona Community College Presidents' Council
Christy Farley, Northern Arizona University
Steve Miller, Arizona State University

Vice-Chairman Barton announced the names of those who signed up in opposition to HB2349 but did not speak:

Seth Apfel, representing self
Anjali Abraham, American Civil Liberties Union of Arizona

Kristen Boilini, Cochise Community College, stated her support for HB2349, stressing the importance of drug-free campuses.

Question was called on the motion that the Reeve 17-line amendment dated 1/31/12 (Attachment 4) be adopted. The motion carried.

Vice-Chairman Barton moved that HB2349 as amended do pass. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 7-0-0-2 (Attachment 5).

HB2347 - public transportation authorities; board membership – DO PASS

Vice-Chairman Barton moved that HB2347 do pass.

Virginia Carico, House Majority Intern, explained that HB2347 adds one member from a community college district and one member from an Indian Nation to the board of directors of an intergovernmental public transportation authority (Attachment 6).

Representative Russ Jones, sponsor, explained that the bill removes a threshold to allow smaller communities to be included in a transportation authority.

Vice-Chairman Barton announced the names of those who signed up in support of HB2347 but did not speak:

Eric Emmert, Yuma County

Question was called on the motion that HB2347 do pass. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 6-0-0-3 (Attachment 7).

HB2227 - international medical school graduates; licensure – DO PASS AMENDED

Vice-Chairman Barton moved that HB2227 do pass.

Stephanie Jaffa, House Majority Assistant Research Analyst, explained that HB2227 removes the requirement for a graduate of an unapproved medical school to complete an additional two years of supervised clinical training if the Arizona Medical Board determines the unapproved school has standards equivalent to an approved medical school (Attachment 8).

Vice-Chairman Barton moved that the Chabin five-line amendment dated 1/27/12 (Attachment 9) be adopted.

Ms. Jaffa explained that the Chabin amendment addresses technical issues and training parameters. She addressed Members' questions.

Megan Guffey, M.D., representing self, testified in support of HB2227 which will adjust requirements for unapproved out-of-country medical students to get licenses to practice and have residency in the United States. She assured the Members that there are many levels of vetting in place but that current law requires an additional 24 months of training for students from other

than the United States and Canada. She added that one in four doctors in this country are international medical school graduates.

Vice-Chairman Barton announced the names of those who signed up in support of HB2227 but did not speak:

Stuart Goodman, Arizona Medical Board

Tara Plese, Arizona Association of Community Health Centers

Seth Apfel, representing self

Question was called on the motion that that the Chabin five-line amendment dated 1/27/12 (Attachment 9) be adopted. The motion carried.

Vice-Chairman Barton moved that HB2227 as amended do pass. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 7-0-0-2 (Attachment 10).

HB2431 - fallen first responders; family; tuition – DO PASS

Vice-Chairman Barton moved that HB2431 do pass.

Virginia Carico, House Majority Intern, explained that HB2431 modifies the period for which children and spouses of fallen first responders can receive a tuition waiver scholarship (Attachment 11).

Mr. Saldate asked for more detail regarding the eight-year time frame.

THE MEETING RECESSED AT 10:40 A.M. UNTIL 10:45 A.M.

THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 10:49 A.M. ALL MEMBERS WERE PRESENT.

Representative David Gowan, sponsor, stated that HB2431 will be a thank-you to the families of fallen soldiers and first-responders. He addressed Mr. Saldate's question, explaining that the eight-year time period allows enough tuition waiver to obtain a doctorate. In response to a question from Mrs. Goodale, he explained that the timeframe begins when a spouse or child starts college, to allow for minor children to benefit.

Vice-Chairman Barton announced the names of those who signed up in support of HB2431 but did not speak:

Thomas Parker, representing self

James Mann, Arizona Fraternal Order of Police

Norman Moore, Arizona Fraternal Order of Police

John Ortolano, Arizona Fraternal Order of Police

Don Isaacson, Arizona Fraternal Order of Police

Brian Livingston, Arizona Police Association

Question was called on the motion that HB2431 do pass. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 7-0-0-2 (Attachment 12).

HB2602 - veteran supportive campuses – DO PASS AMENDED

Vice-Chairman Barton moved that HB2602 do pass.

Stephanie Jaffa, House Majority Assistant Research Analyst, explained that HB2602 replaces enabling language related to Arizona veteran supportive campuses with mandates (Attachment 13).

Vice-Chairman Barton moved that the Forese two-line amendment dated 1/26/12 (Attachment 14) be adopted.

Ms. Jaffa explained that the Forese amendment reverses the requirement for institutions to request certification back to an option.

David Hampton, Arizona Department of Veterans' Services, testified as neutral on HB2602, stating that it is an unneeded "hammer" to do what is right for Arizona's veterans. He informed the Members that Arizona State University will continue to work for veterans, regardless of the status of this bill, and that many other institutions are already in compliance with A.R.S. §41-609.

Michael Hall, V.P. Student Affairs, Arizona Veterans' Education Foundation, stated his support for HB2602, noting that veteran-friendly implementation is inconsistent across Arizona's schools (Attachment 15). He informed the Members that the in-state tuition for veterans will bring them to Arizona for their education.

Representative Javan Mesnard, sponsor, spoke of the high enrollment and graduation rates of veterans.

Alisa Lyons, Arizona Community College Presidents' Council, stated her support for HB2602 and the Forese amendment.

Question was called on the motion that the Forese two-line amendment dated 1/26/12 (Attachment 14) be adopted. The motion carried.

Vice-Chairman Barton moved that HB2602 as amended do pass. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 7-0-0-2 (Attachment 16).

HB2601 - veteran supportive campuses; report – DO PASS

Vice-Chairman Barton moved that HB2601 do pass.

Stephanie Jaffa, House Majority Assistant Research Analyst, explained that HB2601 adds graduation statistics for veterans to the reporting requirements for Arizona veteran supportive campuses (Attachment 17).

Vice-Chairman Barton announced the names of those who signed up in support of HB2601 but did not speak:

Michael Hall, Arizona Veterans' Education Foundation

Question was called on the motion that HB2601 do pass. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 6-0-0-3 (Attachment 18).

Without objection, the meeting adjourned at 11:26 a.m.

Jane Dooley, Committee Secretary
February 17, 2012

(Original minutes, attachments and audio on file in the Office of the Chief Clerk; video archives available at <http://www.azleg.gov>)