

ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Fifty-first Legislature – First Regular Session

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Minutes of Meeting
Monday, February 4, 2013
House Hearing Room 3 -- 2:00 p.m.

Chairman Goodale called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. and attendance was noted by the secretary.

Members Present

Mr. Allen
Mr. Boyer
Mrs. Carter

Mr. Meyer
Ms. Miranda
Ms. Otondo

Mr. Pierce J
Mr. Coleman, Vice-Chairman
Ms. Goodale, Chairman

Members Absent

None

Committee Action

HB2196 – DP (9-0-0-0)
HB2441 – DPA (9-0-0-0)
HB2488 – DPA (8-1-0-0)
HB2494 – DP (7-0-0-2)

HB2495 – HELD
HB2496 – DP (5-2-1-1)
HB2499 – DPA (8-0-0-1)

PRESENTATION

John Huppenthal, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Arizona Department of Education (ADE), gave a presentation on the state of education in Arizona (Attachment 1), which included the following:

- ADE's focus on building a culture of excellence
- Arizona's education landscape
- School choice
- Reforms underway
- Technology needs at ADE
- Technology in the classroom
- Career and technical education
- Restoration of vital services
- General Education Development (GED) program

- School safety
- School funding

Superintendent Huppenthal related that ADE has built a great school choice environment with opportunities for innovation. Some profound standards, assessments and accountability reforms are unfolding that will not be without challenges. The reforms ADE has put in place cannot be effectively accomplished without replacing the current Student Accountability Information System (SAIS) and upgrading technology at ADE. ADE is focused on providing exceptional service, and the Members' support of upgraded technology systems can enable ADE to provide even better service.

In response to questions, Superintendent Huppenthal relayed the following information:

- ADE continues to reach out to the education community for input on improvements and conducts a survey cycle in which over 2,000 responses are received and read. The quality of service rating from the education community has increased.
- The Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) and the Common Core Standards may make it possible to provide merit pay to be fairly distributed to personnel who excel, but certain principles must be followed that are easy to violate; teachers have been hurt through the decades by badly-designed performance pay systems.
- He and other administrative staff have had lengthy discussions about how to design an ADE performance pay system to include outcomes in PARCC and support schools, school districts and teachers; more funding would help.
- If ADE's pace of excellence can be maintained, the agency will be a huge contributor to successful outcomes in Arizona; however, it cannot be done with current technology. SAIS needs to be replaced; when he moved to ADE, he was shocked at its ineffectiveness.

Chairman Goodale commented that it appears several million dollars were spent on a system that is apparently less than optimal.

She acknowledged the presence of Ken Bennett, Secretary of State.

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

HB2495 – school districts; expenditures; refunds – HELD

Chairman Goodale announced that HB2495 will be held.

HB2196 – promotion certificates; 8th grade – DO PASS

Vice-Chairman Coleman moved that HB2196 do pass.

Morgan Cicinelli, Majority Staff Intern, explained that HB2196 removes language allowing school boards to request certificates of promotion from the county school superintendent, but

permits school districts to hold a ceremony for students promoting from eighth grade (Attachment 2).

Ms. Miranda, sponsor, explained that principals will still have the option to hold promotion ceremonies. There are many reforms and higher expectations for students underway, so this bill falls in line with those by helping change the education culture of eighth grade graduation. The idea of awarding these diplomas goes back 100 years, but times have changed. This bill goes hand in hand with the Common Core Standards where students will be encouraged to think critically and analyze.

Leonard Clark, representing self, in favor of HB2196, said he was born in Phoenix and went through an eighth grade graduation ceremony. He is concerned about the mindset of some cultures in which students believe they are finished with their education when they receive an eighth grade diploma. With the current global market, it is important to encourage students to continue their education.

Kent Scribner, Superintendent, Phoenix Union High School District, in favor of HB2196, stated that he supports any effort to minimize the attention and celebration associated with eighth grade promotion. Every effort is made to remind the school district's 26,000 high school students that 64 percent of jobs in Arizona that pay a family-sustaining wage require at least a post-secondary degree.

Don Covey, Maricopa County Superintendent's Office, spoke in favor of HB2196. He related that this certificate dates back 100 years from the agricultural period, which has partly gone to an industrial period to an information age. Last year, Maricopa County issued 44,000 promotion certificates and currently has requests for 35,000; requests can still be made until the end of February 2013. The highest dropout rate is between eighth and ninth grades, which he said he believes is a mental attitude and a cultural expectation. A seamless movement from eighth to ninth grade and on will academically benefit students, the community and the economy of Arizona.

Mrs. Carter asked how this bill will change the current process in Maricopa County. Mr. Covey answered that it will not make a huge difference. This service is not mandatory, but it costs the County about \$9,000 to \$10,000 to print the certificates. If this bill passes and school districts want to continue providing certificates, they will have to go out to bid. He assumed the county will receive calls since this is a cultural issue.

Vice-Chairman Coleman announced the names of those who signed up in support of HB2196 but did not speak:

Kelly McManus, Government Affairs Director, Stand for Children

Tim Carter, Yavapai County School Superintendent

Janice Palmer, Governmental Relations Analyst, Arizona School Boards Association

Jennifer Loreda, Arizona Education Association

Tom Nerini, high school counselor, representing self

Vice-Chairman Coleman announced the names of those who signed up as neutral on HB2196 but did not speak:

Doreen Zannis, representing self

In response to questions, Ms. Miranda acknowledged that the bill strikes language requiring schools to request certificates from Maricopa County so it will be up to school districts to obtain certificates. Ceremonies are not prohibited; it is the school's choice whether to have a ceremony.

Mrs. Carter said she supports the concept of a unified path to high school graduation. The certificate has somewhat of a connotation that the student is done after eighth grade graduation; however she fears that providing the option for a ceremony could create a challenge to school districts that decide not to have a ceremony.

Ms. Miranda replied that as a former administrator, she learned that instilling change on a school campus or among teachers must be done slowly, which is the reason for only eliminating certificates, but not taking away ceremonies. Mrs. Carter indicated that she will check with school districts in her legislative district for input on that language.

Question was called on the motion that HB2196 do pass. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 9-0-0-0 (Attachment 3).

HB2441 – schools; electronic fingerprinting services – DO PASS AMENDED

Vice-Chairman Coleman moved that HB2441 do pass.

Blanca Delgado, Majority Research Intern, explained that HB2441 is an emergency measure that allows the Fingerprinting Division at the Department of Public Safety (DPS) to contract with an entity to provide electronic fingerprinting services, including identity verified fingerprinting for individuals applying for or renewing a teaching certificate (Attachment 4). It allows the contracted entity to charge the applicant a fee and requires DPS to reject an application that is incomplete or incorrectly submitted.

Vice-Chairman Coleman moved that the Goodale five-line amendment to HB2441 dated 2/1/13 (Attachment 5) be adopted.

Ms. Delgado explained that the Goodale five-line amendment to HB2441 (Attachment 5) makes a technical change.

Representative Justin Olson, sponsor, said this bill was requested by DPS to allow for electronic fingerprinting, which increases the quality of fingerprints that can be used in the database and eliminates the administrative burden and wait times.

Mr. Boyer asked if there is a cost to the General Fund. Representative Olson responded that applicants currently pay a fee to have their fingerprints cleared so this would be incorporated in the fee to the vendor; the fee may even be reduced.

Ms. Miranda said she understands applicants will go to a kiosk for the fingerprinting and asked how those will be monitored to ensure it is the right person. Representative Olson replied that DPS assured him that privacy requirements are in place.

Katy Proctor, Legislative Liaison, Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS), spoke in favor of HB2441. She related that DPS is currently in the process of taking information from vendors about services. When applicants go to the kiosk, they will probably have completed an application online and will have a unique identifier. The kiosk can take information such as pictures, driver license swipes, videos, or there could be a person present. After DPS completes the Request for Information (RFI) process, they will go out with a Request for Procurement (RFP), and details will be provided at that point. DPS is extremely focused on making sure this is a secure system.

Vice-Coleman announced the names of those who signed up in support of HB2441 but did not speak:

Stacey Morley, Director, Policy Development & Government Relations, Arizona Department of Education

Jeffrey Raynor, Assistant Director, Department of Public Safety

Elizabeth Hatch, Mesa Public Schools

Charles Essigs, Director of Government Relations, Arizona Association of School Business Officials

Janice Palmer, Governmental Relations Analyst, Arizona School Boards Association

Jennifer Loreda, Arizona Education Association

Sam and Linda Polito, representing Tucson Area School Districts

Gretchen Jacobs, Attorney, Arizona Security Guards

Becky Hill, Scottsdale Unified School District

Vice-Chairman Coleman announced the names of those who signed up as neutral on HB2441 but did not speak:

Doreen Zannis, representing self

Question was called on the motion that the Goodale five-line amendment to HB2441 dated 2/1/13 (Attachment 5) be adopted. The motion carried.

Vice-Chairman Coleman moved that HB2441 as amended do pass. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 9-0-0-0 (Attachment 6).

HB2488 – 200-day school calendar; funding. – DO PASS AMENDED

Vice-Chairman Coleman moved that HB2488 do pass.

Brooke White, Majority Research Analyst, explained that HB2488 allows individual schools and charter schools to offer 200-day calendars and increase their base level funding from five percent to eight percent if approval was obtained from the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) by November 1, 2012 (Attachment 7). Those that did not obtain approval can only increase their base level funding by five percent.

Vice-Chairman Coleman moved that the Boyer seven-line amendment to HB2488 dated 1/31/13 (Attachment 8) be adopted.

Ms. White explained that the Boyer seven-line amendment to HB2488 (Attachment 8) clarifies that school districts and charter holders can increase their base level funding.

Chairman Goodale noted that Ms. Miranda sponsored a similar bill.

Mr. Boyer, sponsor, stated that research is clear on the value of extended learning time, and with implementation of the Common Core Standards, some school districts may need the extended time. Currently, a school district can petition for 200 days but it must be done in every school in the school district. This allows school districts the flexibility. If some schools are struggling, there will be an opportunity to have additional instructional time, which allows for more time for collaboration and professional development among teachers and greater opportunities for students to be exposed to different learning experiences, particularly those from low-income backgrounds.

Don Covey, Maricopa County Superintendent's Office, spoke in favor of HB2488. He stated that his office has been working with a number of school districts, particularly core inner schools, to enable an extension to the school year by an additional 20 days. School board members and superintendents are in the audience who dedicated themselves to making sure this is viable and can happen. The net cost increase will be about \$2.3 million, and school districts and charter schools that obtained approval from ADE as of November 1, 2012 will be able to participate.

Kelly McManus, Government Affairs Director, Stand for Children, stated she is very supportive of HB2488 and efforts to extend learning time for students. Extended learning time is one of the few interventions that consistently show a dramatic improvement in student achievement. HB2488 provides the opportunity for local control and decision-making to determine if this is the best intervention for students. She added that she also supports a rigorous application process and accountability to make sure it truly makes a difference for students.

Chairman Goodale asked if the extension will be added to the end of the calendar year or if there will be a modified calendar with breaks. Ms. McManus responded that the bill specifies only that it will be a 200-day calendar year.

Mr. Boyer said he did not want to include specifics because school districts have different calendars.

Leeann Wieser, President, Arizona Federation of Teachers, spoke in favor of HB2488. She said there are two parts to the bill that are very advantageous, i.e., the flexibility to allow school districts and charter schools to extend the calendar year, and increased funding for schools. It is often difficult to entice teachers to work in school districts that now have 20 extra days, and some teachers are leaving school districts with 20 additional days because they can make the same amount of money in a school district with 20 less contract days. In order to recruit and retain teachers in school districts with longer calendar years, there should be a proportional salary increase to support that decision.

Sandi Nielson, School Board Member, Middleton Elementary School, representing self, in favor of HB2488, stated the school district lost 10 percent of its teachers last year when the board voted for a 200-day school year. It is basically a poverty-level school district. The first quarter of every school year was spent attempting to get students back to the level they were before the summer break, so the idea was to give students more seat time since they do not have

opportunities to go on family field trips and participate in educational events in the summer that higher middle-class families do. The board modified the current school year to get everyone used to the 200 days; it was stretched out so when it is actually implemented in August, the transition will be easy. For many years, the school provided professional development training for staff, but teachers are leaving because of the 200-day calendar with no added compensation, so the board is attempting to obtain funding with its limited budget. Other school districts with the 200-day calendar have increased student achievement. She asked the Members to pass this bill because more seat time is needed for students in order to be prepared for the workforce and so students in a disadvantaged situation can have the opportunity to improve like other students in Arizona.

Dr. Jeffrey Smith, Superintendent, Balsz Elementary School District, in favor of HB2488, related that in 2008, when he became superintendent, two of five schools were underperforming or failing and in danger of corrective action by the state. Achievement was static and about one out of three students dropped out of high school. The school district made the decision to dedicate three percent from override funding to prove the value of a 200-day calendar. For the past four years, school started two weeks earlier and ended two weeks later than most schools in the state. There have been vast improvements in the schools as a result of the 200-day calendar. The customary summer break of two-and-a-half to three months is incredibly debilitating to student performance, especially for disadvantaged students and those who are learning a second language, which is known as the “summer slide.” It is important for schools in Arizona to recruit, develop and retain accomplished teachers, which this bill will allow.

David Howell, Vice President, Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry, in favor of HB2488, testified that this bill is consistent with the Chamber’s long-standing philosophy of empowering Arizona schools to be innovative, employ strategies at a school-based level that work for the community and impose a specific solution for all schools and all children. He said he is particularly enthusiastic about the ability for a school district to extend the calendar for some schools, but not all, because the cost to impose it district-wide would be higher.

Stacey Morley, Director, Policy Development and Government Relations, Arizona Department of Education (ADE), neutral on HB2488, endorsed the 200-day concept. She said the major concern is that ADE does not handle school-level budgeting and she does not know how well the Student Accountability Information System (SAIS) will adapt to this. If the bill passes, it can be done manually, but sometimes there are problems with that. She is also concerned about increased property tax rates, especially in school districts with no state funding due to budget cuts. If funding is provided to replace SAIS, it will be delayed a year, but she believes this will be workable. She added that she is happy to work with the sponsors and supporters to make implementation possible.

Mr. Boyer said he does not want to burden ADE; he wants to ensure student achievement is the main goal, which is another reason to support overhauling SAIS.

Ms. Otondo indicated that she wants to ensure teachers are compensated for the extra days of instruction. Ms. Morley answered that school districts doing this are asking for an increase from five percent to eight percent because five percent does not cover the cost of providing 200 days of instruction.

Ms. Otondo said in Yuma where it is very hot, there were discussions about making school weeks shorter to decrease costs. Many teachers have not had an increase in pay for over six years. She wants to make sure if additional time is added, teachers are compensated; there will also be more work involved with implementation of the Common Core Standards.

Mark Joraanstad, Superintendent, Saddle Mountain Unified School District #90, in support of HB2488, said most of the reasons for his support were expressed by previous speakers. Saddle Mountain is located near the Palo Verde Nuclear Plant, and three years ago, it was in receivership. The school district has recovered, and its academic standing has gone from abysmal to three points shy of an "A." The teaching staff was revamped, teacher training improvements were made and teachers were given top-notch tools, materials and technology. The curriculum was improved and the only remaining variable to increase student achievement is to allow the teachers to apply their strategies and tools to more learning time. His only concern is that the school district consists of 550 square miles, and with the huge transportation costs the school district has, an increase of five percent in the base level leaves minimal money to increase pay to teachers, so eight percent is critical for the staff. He added that the date of November 1, 2012 places the school district in a bind because the board and community were not convinced to adopt this concept by that date; he asked the Members to consider changing the date. He added that school district personnel salaries have been frozen for five years, and this bill will be a chance for teachers to work for increased compensation.

Mr. Boyer said he is trying to keep the impact low for the fiscal year; Saddle Mountain can implement this for the 2014-2015 school years, which Mr. Joraanstad acknowledged.

Vice-Chairman Coleman announced the names of those who signed up in support of HB2488 but did not speak:

Barry Aarons, Lobbyist, Arizona Association of County School Superintendents

Charles Essigs, Director of Government Relations, Arizona Association of School Business Officials

Roger Freeman, Superintendent, Littleton Elementary School District

Nathan McCann, Superintendent, Altar Valley School District

Doreen Zannis, representing self

Staci Burk, Governing Board Member, Gilbert Unified School District

Tim Carter, Yavapai County School Superintendent

Sabrina Vazquez, Legislative Liaison, Arizona School Administrators

Janice Palmer, Governmental Relations Analyst, Arizona School Boards Association

Jennifer Loreda, Arizona Education Association

Jac Heiss, Superintendent, Coconino Association for Vocations, Industry and Technology (CAVIAT)

Penny Allee Taylor, Specialist/Government Affairs, Valley of the Sun United Way

Sam Polito, Tucson Area School Districts

Jaime Rivera, Superintendent of Riverside School District, representing self

Question was called on the motion that the Boyer seven-line amendment to HB2488 dated 1/31/13 (Attachment 8) be adopted. The motion carried.

Vice-Chairman Coleman moved that HB2488 as amended do pass. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 8-1-0-0 (Attachment 9).

HB2494 – charter schools; enrollment preference – DO PASS

Vice-Chairman Coleman moved that HB2494 do pass.

Virginia Carico, Majority Assistant Research Analyst, explained that HB2494 contains the following provisions (Attachment 10):

- Gives charter school enrollment preference to the grandchildren or legal wards of employees of the school or charter holder, school board members or directors, officers, partners and board members of the charter holder.
- Gives preference to siblings of a student who previously attended the charter school with the same educational management organization, charter management organization or educational service provider.
- Removes the stipulation that charter schools that elect to give enrollment preference from being treated as a single charter school for the purposes of establishing support level weights.

Mr. Boyer, sponsor, said this is a continuity of curriculum bill that provides for a change in the family dynamics to include grandchildren and legal wards.

Jay Kaprosy, Senior Government Relations Advisor, Arizona Charter School Association, in favor of HB2494, stated that the impetus for the bill is to allow continuity of curriculum for students and families. Under current law, there is a limitation to enrollment preferences to allow a student in elementary school to go on and attend a school in the same network in middle and high school grades.

Leanne Fawcett, Headmaster, Great Hearts, spoke in favor of HB2494. She explained that Great Hearts is a charter management organization that represents 15 schools in the Valley and serves thousands of students, with thousands more on a waiting list. The school offers a unique curriculum and works with two models of kindergarten through fifth grade called Archway schools; sixth-to twelfth-grade schools are called Prep schools. Each has its own headmaster and board of directors. When fifth graders in Archway schools are ready to move into sixth grade, they must apply to attend a school on the same campus, and many do not make it because of the lottery process. She would like students to be able to move from kindergarten through twelfth grade without any “hiccups.”

David Lujan, Chief Administrator, Arizona State University (ASU) Preparatory Academy, spoke in favor of HB2494. He stated that the Academy is a charter school that serves kindergarten through twelfth grade and the charter holder is ASU. There are two campuses, one in downtown Phoenix and another in East Mesa at the ASU Polytechnic Campus. The schools last year had some the best academic gains in Arizona and there are waiting lists for every grade. Because the elementary and high schools are considered two different schools, eighth-grade students must go through the lottery process like other students not currently attending the school. Parents want to have academic continuity in order to achieve the mission of the Academy, which is to prepare all students, not only to attend college, but to be successful while attending college. This bill will give parents that continuity.

Jim Barlow, representing self, spoke in favor of HB2494. He stated his daughter is a single working parent who asked him to speak for her and her two children who attend the Archway Charter School. His 11-year-old grandson did not make the lottery and the family is in turmoil because he is doing very well. This is such a terrific school that his grandchildren love to attend. Without the continuity provided in this bill, his daughter will have to remove his grandson and granddaughter from the school. He added that many other families not present would like to express the same feelings.

Andrea Rumsey, representing self, testified that families are choosing specific schools based on long-term educational goals. She and her husband have three daughters; this year, their oldest daughter's name will be placed in the lottery as she transitions from fifth to sixth grade even though she would be attending a Chandler Preparatory Academy (CPA), which is under the same school management organization. She submitted that parents should be assured of a seamless transition between schools under the same educational management organization. Enacting this bill will put a system in place that supports families and school choice.

Lori Venberg, representing self, spoke in favor of HB2494. She said she is the mother of a daughter who has attended Archway Classical Academy for three years. When she chose the school, it was for the long-term goal of having a seamless education for her children. Her daughter in fifth grade went through the lottery and was not chosen, which is emotional for her since her daughter attended this school since its inception. She registered her daughter in four other schools, willing to drive to Scottsdale or Mesa, so if an opening occurred she could be enrolled at CPA. Her daughter is on a waiting list at all four schools so she does not know what to do. She also has a second grader she wants to remain at the Academy. When a charter school is not a neighborhood school, it is a logistical nightmare to transport children to school.

Katrina Torres, representing self, in favor of HB2494, stated she has four boys who attend ASU Preparatory Academy. The oldest is in eighth grade; he went through the lottery service and is in the ASU Prep freshman class so she does not have to worry about him transitioning to another school. Her second child, though, is a special needs child and any change is very stressful. Knowing that he will have to go through the lottery next year is troubling. She has two other boys in the first and fourth grades who love going to this school.

Vice-Chairman Coleman announced the names of those who signed up in support of HB2494 but did not speak:

Eileen Sigmund, Arizona Charter Schools Association
Tim Carter, Yavapai County School Superintendent

Vice-Chairman Coleman announced the names of those who signed up in opposition to HB2494 but did not speak:

Leonard Clark, representing self
Doreen Zannis, representing self

Vice-Chairman Coleman announced the names of those who signed up as neutral on HB2494 but did not speak:

Stacey Morley, Director, Policy Development & Government Relations, Arizona Department of Education

Question was called on the motion that HB2494 do pass. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 7-0-0-2 (Attachment 11).

HB2496 – schools; petition; regulatory exemptions – DO PASS

Vice-Chairman Coleman moved that HB2496 do pass.

Brooke White, Majority Research Analyst, explained that HB2496 allows charter schools, in addition to school districts, to identify and submit to the State Board of Education (SBE) exemptions from certain rules and statutes if a letter grade of “A” is maintained for two of the last three consecutive years and a letter grade of “C”, “D” or “F” is not received in the same three-year period (Attachment 12).

Representative J.D. Mesnard, sponsor, explained that last year, the ability was placed in statute for school districts to receive exemptions from Title 15, but in order to qualify, school districts must be “A” school districts for three years in a row. Charter schools were not included, which was an oversight. There may be some benefit to allowing flexibility by requiring an “A” letter grade in two out of three years instead of three years in a row.

In response to a question, Representative Mesnard stated that school districts claim the Legislature keeps imposing mandates, which he is sympathetic to. If school districts receive “A” letter grades, flexibility should be allowed to request an exemption from the SBE on certain portions of Title 15. The bill lists items for which an exemption cannot be allowed.

Sydney Hay, A Plus Arizona - Every Child Can Learn, spoke in favor of HB2496. She said she believes that high-achieving schools should be able to appeal a regulation that impedes high achievement.

Jonathan Butcher, representing self, in favor of HB2496, offered to answer questions.

Chairman Goodale noted that the bill addresses Arizona regulations and asked if it also includes federal regulations. Representative Mesnard responded that in the original bill, part of SBE’s involvement was to look into federal requirements; there are also voter mandates with which school districts and charter schools must continue to comply.

Vice-Chairman Coleman announced the names of those who signed up in support of HB2496 but did not speak:

Deb Gullett, A Plus Arizona

Eileen Sigmund, Arizona Charter Schools Association

Vice-Chairman Coleman announced the names of those who signed up in opposition to HB2496 but did not speak:

Staci Burk, Governing Board Member, Gilbert Unified School District

Vice-Chairman Coleman announced the names of those who signed up as neutral on HB2496 but did not speak:

Doreen Zannis, representing self

Question was called on the motion that HB2496 do pass. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 5-2-1-1 (Attachment 13).

HB2499 – JTEDs; per pupil funding calculation – DO PASS AMENDED

Vice-Chairman Coleman moved that HB2499 do pass.

Virginia Carico, Majority Assistant Research Analyst, explained that HB2499 requires the average daily membership (ADM) for tenth, eleventh and twelfth grade students enrolled at a centralized campus that is leased by a Joint Technical Education District (JTED) to be calculated at no more than .75 if they meet certain requirements (Attachment 14). It also allows a student enrolled at an accommodation school to be considered a student of the school district in which the student physically resides compared to the school district in which the student attends, for the purposes of enrolling in a JTED.

Vice-Chairman Coleman moved that the Goodale six-line amendment to HB2499 dated 2/1/13 (Attachment 15) be adopted.

Ms. Carico explained that the Goodale six-line amendment to HB2499 (Attachment 15) conforms references in statute to clarify that the ADM of a student enrolled in both member district and JTED courses provided at a facility leased and operated by a JTED is to be calculated at no more than 1.75.

Tim Carter, Yavapai County School Superintendent, in favor of HB2499, indicated that this bill is from the County Superintendent's Association. He endorsed Subsection S, which deals with accommodation schools being eligible to receive JTED funding, as well as the Goodale six-line amendment (Attachment 15).

Jen Sweeney, Deputy Director, Arizona Association of Counties, in support of HB2499, said she echoes Mr. Carter's comments and offered to answer questions.

Russell "Rusty" Bowers, External Affairs Director, East Valley Institute of Technology (EVIT), stated he is neutral on HB2499. Most of his participation relating to the bill was relative to leasing JTED facilities, and not the accommodation and needs expressed by Mr. Carter, which he does support. He said he wants to ensure there is a permanent presence of a JTED in the district the people are paying for in bricks and mortar and that leasing is seen as supplemental to the mission and not the means to make the mission happen. He added that he expressed this concern to people who worked on the bill and perhaps some language can be worked out.

Jac Heiss, Superintendent, Coconino Association for Vocations, Industry and Technology (CAVIAT), spoke in favor of HB2499. He said he took board members on a tour of EVIT and they were awed by the facility and quality of the programs; upon their return, they said they want the same for their students. If Coconino County asks taxpayers for money to build facilities for that purpose, there are vacant buildings paid for and owned by the taxpayers that the county would like to access in order to provide central programs. Also, the marine services industry in Page indicated that technicians for houseboats are needed. It is prohibitively expensive for the county to build a facility large enough to accommodate a houseboat, so the marine services

industry offered to provide equipment and instructors; however, that is prohibited under current law because the county must own the property. These kinds of programs impel the county to support changing the current statute. He added that many JTEDs around the state are looking for partnership opportunities.

Chairman Goodale stated only Yuma is not participating in a JTED program, for which a vote will be taken. JTED programming would then encompass the entire state, which is awesome. She indicated that she would like the Members to see what is offered in bricks and mortar and satellite programs, as well as the fantastic programs offered by JTEDs.

Ms. Otondo commented that she is from Yuma where a JTED is badly needed and would benefit the community.

Chairman Goodale stated that students who attend JTEDs do better in school, to which Mr. Heiss agreed.

Gretchen Jacobs, Attorney, Consortium of Arizona JTEDs, in favor of HB2499, referred to Mr. Bowers' comments and pointed out that the ability for JTEDs to lease does not diminish the investment or success of EVIT, which has proven to be a very successful model. She advised that the Pima County JTED was approached by industry to help train workers to meet critical needs, including a major Arizona company that will need to replace thousands of workers in southern Arizona. This company would like to partner with Pima County JTED and provide a training facility, which will require a lease. Also, the University of Arizona (UA) would like to partner with Pima County JTED to train students in biosciences on the UA campus, which will also require a lease. Additionally, Pima County JTED currently partners with the local hospital to train special needs students to work there upon graduation, but since it does not own the hospital, a lease contract is the only way that will be possible in the future. It is not expected that these programs will become a high percentage of JTED operations, especially with the requirement for the Joint Committee on Capital Review (JCCR) to approve each lease. Many JTEDs serve a huge geographical area so a central campus is not feasible.

Vice-Chairman Coleman announced the names of those who signed up in support of HB2499 but did not speak:

Trey Williams, Legislative Liaison, Arizona Association of Counties

Tina Norton, Chief Financial Officer, Pima County JTED

Betsy Parker, Superintendent, Western Arizona Vocational Education

Matt Weber, Superintendent, Northern Arizona Vocational Institute of Technology

Alan Storm, Superintendent, Pima County JTED

Charles Essigs, Director of Government Relations, Arizona Association of School Business Officials

Troy Thygerson, Superintendent, Gila Institute for Technology

Barry Aarons, Lobbyist, Arizona Association of County School Superintendents

Jeremy Plumb, Program Director, Mountain Institute JTED

Diane McCarthy, West-MEC

Greg Donovan, Superintendent, West-MEC

Ray Polvani, Superintendent, Mountain Institute JTED

Ron Shoopman, President, Southern Arizona Leadership Council

Lisa A. Atkins, Vice President for Public Policy, Greater Phoenix Leadership

Janice Palmer, Governmental Relations Analyst, Arizona School Boards Association
Sam Polito, Tucson Area School Districts JTED Consortium

Vice-Chairman Coleman announced the names of those who signed up as neutral on HB2499 but did not speak:

Stacey Morley, Director, Policy Development & Government Relations, Arizona Department of Education

Doreen Zannis, representing self

Question was called on the motion that the Goodale six-line amendment to HB2499 dated 2/1/13 (Attachment 15) be adopted. The motion carried.

Vice-Chairman Coleman moved that HB2499 as amended do pass. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 8-0-0-1 (Attachment 16).

Without objection, the meeting adjourned at 4:28 p.m.

Linda Taylor, Committee Secretary
February 12, 2013

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