

2017 SENATE EDUCATION

SB 2211

2017 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Education Committee
Sheyenne River Room, State Capitol

SB 2211
1/24/2017
Job Number 27281

- Subcommittee
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature

Sandy Baumgartner

Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Relating to the membership of school board advisory committee

Minutes:

#1, #2, #3

SB 2211 called to order

Senator Joan Hackamen: Introduce SB 2211.

Angela Mayberry, parent from Dunseith, ND. Testimony #1

Angela Mayberry read testimony #2 from **Cari Duncan**, Sawyer, ND. In support of SB 2011.

Discussion was held about children in their school district.

Chairman Schaible: Have you asked your school district to have an advisory program?

Answer was no. Any testimony in opposition to SB 2211?

Anita Thomas: General Council of ND School Boards Association: Testimony #3. NDSBA requests this be given a Do Not Pass.

Discussion held.

Chairman Schaible: Any other opposition or agency? Close on committee.

2017 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Education Committee
Sheyenne River Room, State Capitol

SB 2211
1/30/2017
Job Number 27588

- Subcommittee
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature

Sandy Baumgartner

Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Relating to the membership of school board advisory committee

Minutes:

#1

Chairman Schaible: Call to order. SB 2211. This mandates that a school board appoint on an advisory board a parent of a special needs child. Discussion?

Testimony #1 from Heather Wheeler, special needs mother from Willison was handed out to committee members, but not read aloud.

Senator Kannianen: Is there any school board in the state that has this kind of advisory committee?

Chairman Schaible: An advisory committee set up by the school board can be set up at their discretion. There could be. But this mandates that someone with a special needs child be on the advisory committee. Are the boards doing their jobs? I see this as a local control issue. They have the right to do this now.

Senator Rust: In my opinion the bill does nothing that can't be done already.

Chairman Schaible: IEP meetings are held for all special needs children in the local school.

Senator Rust: I move for a Do Not Pass on SB 2211

Senator Kannianen: Seconded

Chairman Schaible: Other discussion? Ask for Roll Call.

Roll Call taken: 5 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent

Senator Rust will carry.

Date: 1-30-17
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2017 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE
ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2211

Senate Education Committee

Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description: _____

Recommendation: Adopt Amendment
 Do Pass Do Not Pass Without Committee Recommendation
 As Amended Rerefer to Appropriations
 Place on Consent Calendar
Other Actions: Reconsider _____

Motion Made By Rust Seconded By Kannianen

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Chairman Schaible	✓		Senator Oban	✓	
Vice-Chairman Rust	✓				
Senator Davison	ab				
Senator Kannianen	✓				
Senator Vedaa	✓				

Total (Yes) 5 No 0

Absent 1

Floor Assignment Rust

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2211: Education Committee (Sen. Schaible, Chairman) recommends **DO NOT PASS**
(5 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2211 was placed on the
Eleventh order on the calendar.

2017 TESTIMONY

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#1 p.1

I come to you with SB2211, I wrote this bill to help foster a relationship with the parents of special needs children and the school district by adding a seat on the school board for one parent of each special needs diagnosis (individual) a small change in schedule for special needs children can cause setbacks that take months and sometimes years to correct. sometimes it is the big changes to curriculum's that hurt children the most. our special needs children need to have positive input and positive output for their emotions. One of those outlets seems to be art, physical education, recess, and any area that might increase the chance for social interaction. from a special needs mother if it wasn't for my child needing that social interaction that she might get at lunchtime or between classes I would have made the decision to home school due to there is no positive outlets in my child's schedule and she comes home from school so tense and upset. If the school board would talk to the parents and partner with us they would have more of an idea of what our children's needs are.

Miss Angela Mayberry
Dunseith ND

To close, I am also supporting SB2208 because I believe all children should be able to see their school staff members be a model of good behavior. My former school superintendent may serve up to 35 years in prison for the six different charges he agreed to last year. I'm still trying to explain those behaviors to my children.

I am also in support of SB2211, because there is hope that districts will create school board advisory committees and strive to hear the voices, both the concerns and the joys, of the families who have children with disabilities in their school. People generally do better when they know better.

Thank you for your time.

Cari Duncan
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SB 2211
1-24-17
#3



NORTH DAKOTA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

I N C O R P O R A T E D

Excellence in North Dakota public education through local school board governance

SB 2211 – TESTIMONY

L. Anita Thomas, J.D., LL.M.

General Counsel

North Dakota School Boards Association

January 24, 2017

SB 2211 states that if a school board appoints an advisory committee dealing with issues and accommodations pertaining to special needs students, that committee must include the parent of a special needs student who attends a school within the district.

If the board of a school district determines that it needs input from an advisory committee, it needs the flexibility to select committee members based on their knowledge, their training, their expertise, and their experience. This is true for any issue, not just those dealing with special education. There are a vast array of topics that could fall within the phrase “issues and accommodations pertaining to special needs students.” Nothing prevents a board from including one or more parents, if deemed appropriate.

Advisory committee meetings, like school board meetings, are open to the public. Advisory committee records, like school board meeting records are available to the public. School board members are accessible to the public by phone, email, etc. There is no shortage of opportunity for any parent of a special needs child to share their thoughts with their duly elected school board members.

The NDSBA respectfully requests that this bill be given a **DO NOT PASS**.

SB 2211
1-30-17
#1

Testimony of Senate Bill SB2211
2017 legislative session
January 23, 2017

Chairman Schaible and Committee members,

Hello to all Committee members, my name is Heather Wheeler and I live in Williston North Dakota.

I am submitting testimony today in regards to Senate Bill SB2211 which is the bill to add a new section to chapter 15.1-09 of the North Dakota Century code, relating to the membership of School Board advisory committees.

I am the mother of a special needs daughter who receives extensive special education services through our High School in Williston and another daughter receiving learning services at our Middle School in Williston. I know from experience that these services are both time consuming and go unnoticed by most. Our School Board in Williston, and other School Boards, have a large number of responsibilities and populations to look at and vote on. The School Board usually only hears about problems when they arrive instead of hearing about issues that may become a problem.

I am privileged to be on the School Board in Williston and see the value SB2211. In our district we are lucky in the fact that our communication between staff, departments and schools is exemplary. We have prided ourselves on this however, it hasn't always been this way. Having a committee in place to advise the School Board about the education of our Special Education/Special needs students, I feel, would be valuable.

Since I am the mother of children with special needs, a School Board member and an advocate, I feel I have a unique perspective on the education of children with special needs. For myself and my duties on the School Board, I value facts and information. As a parent and an advocate, I also value facts and information and how they are being used. I feel having a committee in place with at least one parent of a child with special needs to advise School Boards would be very valuable.

Most individuals do not understand the various accommodations that children with special needs have in school. This is true for most School Board members as well. A committee such as this would allow School Boards to be educated on these matters so that decisions can be made based on both fact as well as function.

Within this legislation I feel that the decisions for a committee to advise the School Board relating to issues and accommodations regarding special needs student's makeup should be left up to the individual districts. This way districts can create a committee that best suits their individual district.

To close I once again would like to thank this committee for hearing my testimony and I would like to thank you for bringing forth this bill. I truly feel this will be valuable to districts and School Boards. We can only direct when we know all the information affecting individuals. As a School Board member, I hold this statement to be true and valuable.

Thank You for your time,

Heather Wheeler
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