

Governmental Services Committee
Taxation and Budget Reform Commission
Room 12, House Office Building
Tallahassee, Florida
8:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.
June 26, 2007

(Committee members: Roberto Martinez, Chair; Hoyt “Barney” Barnett, Martha Barnett, Mark Bostick, Talbot “Sandy” D’Alemberte, Bruce Kyle, Robert “Bob” McKee, Lesley “Les” Miller, Jr., Randy Miller, Jade Thomas Moore, James Scott)

Members Present:

Barney Barnett
Martha Barnett
Bruce Kyle
Bob McKee
Randy Miller
Jade Moore (by phone)

Members Excused:

Mark Bostick
Sandy D’Alemberte
Les Miller
James Scott
Roberto Martinez

Acting Chair Bruce Kyle called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

Staff called the roll and announced the presence of a quorum.

Chair Kyle reviewed the minutes of the Chairs’ Conference Call on July 15 and reported that the chairs believed that the best use of the members’ time over the next two months would be to focus on education at the committee level. Members agreed with this assessment.

Department of Education Interim Commissioner Jeanine Blomberg made a presentation on Florida’s K-12 Education needs and projected growth over the next twenty years. A copy of the presenter’s powerpoint is available on the commission website at www.floridatbrc.org . In addition, an audio recording of the meeting is available on the website.

Members asked a series of questions related to “required local effort,” local equalization and discretionary taxes, the state’s responsibility to make up any difference in

equalization formula, and the interaction between millage rates and property values. In addition, the members inquired about the process for setting the statewide “cost per student” for the FEFP funding formula for education. The issues of enrollment growth, the cost of implementation of the class-size amendment, and the relationship of the cost of education to the cost of living were discussed.

Chair Kyle polled the committee regarding speakers for the next meeting and all agreed that more education from local school boards and administrators is needed to help put the state presentation in context.

The committee agreed that future meetings should focus on education, health care, public safety and other “high cost” issues such as water delivery and transportation. The members indicated that more time was needed for these educational meetings.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:18 a.m.