

Fri 3-27 Ted:

Talked to Kelso again today. McEachern has set up hearing for her at 8 -10 a.m. Educ. Com. meeting April 10. She wants to move ahead on planning for it, get it all set up, and if worst comes to worst, cancel.

Becky says she doesn't (or can't) quite believe that he would/will actually kill the bill...altho she clearly is not at all certain, at this point, about his intentions. He does know that she does not have illusions about passing it (or attempting to). I asked her specifically about that, because it's important that McEachern not think she's trying to gin up enuf votes to pass the bill, as vs. just looking for a hearing. Apparently he is clear about this, so he at least does not think he has a fight on his hands.

So, I said, well, I would think that, as we get closer to the 10th, he would level with you, and you could either:

1. get agreement with McE. that you won't try to pass it, and he won't try to kill it -- it will just get heard, or
2. he'll be straight with Becky and say he is going to bring it to a vote, *in* which case she can -- and will -- cancel her hearing, which is always the author's prerogative.

Becky agreed that that is also her assessment.

Becky will depend upon us to tactfully make sure that Doug Wallace doesn't testify, without directly attributing this to her -- her preference is that he not even appear, because McEachern is so irritated by him. (I talked to Doug earlier today to update him on Wed. developments in Beckman committee after he left, and said [knowing roughly Becky's thinking on this] that I thought she would want to stick pretty much to teachers.

When Becky and I talked this afternoon, she said she'd like:

1. Jim Walker, as a superintendent;
2. And she wonders if we can find a schoolboard member, perhaps from North Branch even. I said I don't know, we'll work on it; I mentioned Janet Johnson as a former board member, but she didn't bite on that.
3. Teachers -- she heard the North Branch teacher, but had to leave the Senate hearing before Barb Schmidt testified. I said Barb did a good job, and Becky said swell, sign her up.

I would think we'd want a second teacher, as well.

I suggested Tom Lindquist (state board chair) and Becky thought he would be good. I know Tom a bit from Unisys -- I think you know him, too, don't you? -- and we or I or you should talk to him. If he's willing to testify in favor of ~~our version~~, knowing it is not what's in HF350, so much the better. McEachern clearly treated Tom very well when he testified briefly, early on, on HF350.

*Becky's bill*

Let's talk Sun. night or Monday on this.

P.S. Bad news from Greenway Gables. The chemo so far has not arrested growth of David's liver cancer (not surprisingly, I'm afraid); they're in process of getting a "second opinion" from Mayo -- actually, just seeing if anyone at Mayo thinks some other combination of chemicals might possibly work. If not, I think this week's round of chemo was probably the last. Will know more toward middle/late next week.

*Pete*