

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Brenda Landwehr at 1:30 PM on Monday, February 13, 2012 in Room 784 of the Docking State Office Building.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Norm Furse, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Katherine McBride, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Martha Dorsey, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Jay Hall, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Joseph Leiker, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Debbie Bartuccio, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Dr. Robert Moser, Secretary, Kansas Department of Health and Environment
([Attachments 1 and 2](#))
Douglas Parham, PhD, CCC-SLP, President, Kansas Speech-Language-Hearing Association ([Attachment 3](#))
Rachel Berroth, Director for the Early Care and Youth Programs Section and Interim Director for the Bureau of Child Care and Health Facilities ([Attachment 5](#))

Others in attendance:

See attached list.

HB 2416–Division of health care finance of department of health and environment; updating references and other provisions regarding transfer of powers and duties of Kansas health policy authority;

Chairperson Landwehr opened the hearing on the bill.

Dr. Moser provided testimony in support of the bill which he stated finishes the codification in statute of the actions taken through Executive Reorganization Order (ERO) 38 to transition duties from the Kansas Health Policy Authority (KHPA) to the Division of Health Care Finance (DHCF) within the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Discussions between management staff that were necessary to achieve the consolidation began in early 2011. The main goal of all involved was to create a transition that would minimize disruption to the clients and providers in the Medicaid program, while allowing the agency to realize targeted reductions in expenditure and staffing. During the transition they believe that the end consumers of

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Medicaid services, the patients and their health care professionals, have been well-served and that the consolidation has been a non-event to those outside of the agency. ([Attachment 1](#))

There was no verbal or written testimony submitted in opposition or neutral to the bill.

Following the completion of a question and answer session, Chairperson Landwehr closed the hearing on the bill.

HB 2659–Relating to speech-language pathologists and audiologists

Chairperson Landwehr opened the hearing on the bill.

Dr. Robert Moser presented testimony in support of the bill. He stated he originally intended to support the bill in its introduced format which was to move the licensure of Speech Language Pathologists (SLPs) and Audiologists from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment to the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts (Board). However, after additional conversations and consideration, he requested that all references to the Board be changed to the Department of Aging. This bill was intended to be part of a complete reorganization of the various components of the Health Occupation Program, which is currently housed within KDHE. They believe that moving SLPs and Audiologists to Aging; along with the moving of Certified Nurse Aides, Certified Home Health Aides, Certified Medication Aides, Adult Care Home Administrators, and Dieticians as outlined in ERO 41, will provide an appropriate alignment for the licensure and certification of these professions into the future. ([Attachment 2](#))

There was no written testimony submitted in support of the bill.

Douglas Parham was originally scheduled to testify in opposition to the original bill. With the proposed amendments outlined by Dr. Moser, he testified he is now comfortable with what is being proposed and the change of responsibility to the Department of Aging. ([Attachment 3](#))

Written testimony only in opposition to the bill was provided by:

Julie Gatts, M.A., CCC-SLP, certified speech-language pathologist and a clinical assistant professor at the Schiefelbusch Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic at the University of Kansas in Lawrence. Her testimony requested that the oversight of licensing and the profession be placed within the Department of Aging and Disability Services. Since she was not able to attend the meeting and had actually requested the change that was made by Dr. Moser in his testimony, it would appear she would support the bill as it has been amended. ([Attachment 4](#))

There was no verbal or written testimony provided that was neutral to the bill.

Following the completion of a question and answer session, Chairperson Landwehr closed the hearing on the bill.

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HB 2660—Relating to the licensure of maternity centers and child care facilities

Chairperson Landwehr opened the hearing on the bill.

Rachel Berroth provided testimony in support of the bill. The bill amends the Child Care Act and the changes are consistent with the state's, providers' and parents' interest in protecting children while assuring access to child care. Defining a "day care facility" as a type of child care facility and using the term when provisions of the act apply to day care facilities including day care homes, preschools, child care centers and school age programs clarifies legislative intent. (Attachment 5)

There was no verbal or written testimony submitted in opposition or neutral to the bill.

Following the completion of a question and answer session, Chairperson Landwehr closed the hearing on the bill.

HB 2631—Dental care availability and access

Norm Furse reviewed the proposed amendments to the bill (Attachment 6).

There was discussion concerning the terms "dentally underserved" and "medically indigent" and providing definitions for these terms and amending the proposed amendment to include these definitions. Following the completion of a question and answer session, the committee proceeded to work the bill.

Representative Bethell made a motion to adopt the amended amendment as had been discussed and suggested by Revisor Furse. The motion was seconded by Representative Bollier. The motion carried.

Representative Bethell made a motion to pass out the bill as amended favorable for passage. The motion was seconded by Representative Mast. The motion carried.

Chairperson Landwehr asked committee members if there was any interest in working the medical marijuana bill: **HB 2330—Enacting the cannabis compassion and care act.** She requested a show of hands to indicate an interest in doing so and no committee members raised their hand.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 14, 2012.