

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE INSURANCE COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Clark Shultz at 3:30 p.m. on February 26, 2009, in Room 784 of the Docking State Office Building.

All members were present except:

Representative Burroughs - Excused.

Committee staff present:

Bruce Kinzie, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Melissa Calderwood, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Cindy Lash, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Sue Fowler, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Amy Campbell, Consumer Mental Health Coalition
Bill Sneed, America's Health Insurance Plans
Maralee Carpenter, Kansas Association of Health Plans
Rachelle Colombo, KS Chamber
Michelle Sweeney, Association of Community Mental Health Centers of Kansas
Rick Cagan, National Association of Mental Health (NAMI-KS)
Brad Smoot, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas City
Dan Murray, National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB)

Others attending:

See attached list.

Staff review of health insurance mandates currently in law:

Melissa Calderwood, Kansas Legislative Research Department, (Attachment 1), presented an overview of the L-2 Kansas Health Insurance Mandates currently in law.

Public input concerning health insurance mandates currently in law:

Brad Smoot, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas City, (Attachment 2), discussed the health insurance mandates.

Amy Campbell, Consumer Mental Health Coalition, (Attachment 3), commented on the Committee's review of insurance mandates.

Michelle Sweeney, Association of Community Mental Health Centers of Kansas, (Attachment 4), presented information on insurance coverage for mental health treatment in Kansas.

Rick Cagan, National Association of Mental Health (NAMI-KS), (Attachment 5), expressed strong and absolute support for maintaining the mental health mandate for companies providing health insurance to Kansans.

Bill Sneed, America's Health Insurance Plans, (Attachment 6), provided written testimony regarding their client's position relative to state-imposed mandates on health insurance products.

Maralee Carpenter, Kansas Association of Health Plans, (Attachment 7), provided written testimony to provide comments about health insurance mandates.

Rachelle Colombo, KS Chamber, (Attachment 8), provided written testimony on the subject of health insurance mandates and the impact to the overall cost of health care.

Dan Murray, National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), (Attachment 9), provided written testimony concerning health insurance mandates currently in law.

Representative Nile Dillmore, Ranking Minority Leader, House Insurance Committee, (Attachment 10), handed out information on the cost for the Kansas State Employee Health Plan of various providers and benefits that are mandated by Kansas Statute.

Representative Grant moved without objection to pass the February 17, 2009 committee minutes as written.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 3, 2009.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.