

Approved: February 23, 2012

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

This meeting was attended by the House Committee on Health and Human Services, the House Committee on Federal and State Affairs, and the House Committee on Corrections on Juvenile Justice. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Steve Brunk at 1:30 PM on Monday, January 17, 2012 in Room 346-S of the Capitol building.

All members were present except:

- Representative Bethell - Excused
- Representative Calloway - Excused
- Representative Trimmer - Excused
- Representative Hermanson - Excused
- Representative Meigs - Excused
- Representative Winn - Excused
- Representative Weber - Excused

Committee staff present:

- 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:

- Christine Ladner, Assistant Attorney General ([Attachment 1](#))
- Marc Bennett, Sedgwick County Assistant District Attorney ([Attachment 1, 2, 3](#))
- Kristy Childs, Founder of Veronica's Voice ([Attachment 4](#))
- Jerry Kuckelman, Atchison County Attorney ([Attachments 1, 2, 3, and 5](#))

Others in attendance:

See attached list.

Martha Dorsey, Kansas Legislative Research Department, provided a short overview of the documents provided by the conferees. The purpose of the meeting was to provide information to the committees on the status of human trafficking in Kansas.

Christine Ladner, Marc Bennett and Jerry Kuckelman shared information from a powerpoint presentation. ([Attachment 1](#)) Christine Ladner focused on the definition of human trafficking and a review of some of the aspects of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA). Today, aggravated trafficking criminalizes the act of trafficking - the taking, transporting, etc. for the purpose of the illicit act, rather than the illicit act itself (can be a separate charge). Some of

Unless specifically noted, the individual remarks recorded herein have not been transcribed verbatim. Individual remarks as reported herein have not been submitted to the individuals appearing before the committee for editing or corrections.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the HOUSE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES Committee at 1:30 PM on Monday, January 17, 2012 in Room 346-S of the Capitol building.

the other issues remain (secrecy, drugs, transience) but this criminal conduct is far easier to establish than a specific sexual act on a specific day.

Marc Bennett and Jerry Kuckelman reviewed a number of case studies, including a document entitled “WPD Briefing on Human Sex Trafficking” ([Attachment 2](#)) and a case study spreadsheet ([Attachment 3](#))

Kristy Childs presented testimony as the founder of Veronica’s Voice. She founded the organization over eleven years ago to help the women whose lives have been ravaged by this society ill. She has been providing her own story and a reflection of what she sees in the services being provided since that time. ([Attachment 4](#))

Jerry Kuckelman stated he has been a prosecutor for twenty-two years, the majority of that time spent prosecuting sex crimes and crimes against children, including cases of human trafficking. He reviewed a document from the office of the attorney general which provided an overview of human trafficking in Kansas, a description of current efforts in the battle against human trafficking and a sample of case studies prosecuted at the state level. ([Attachment 5](#))

Two final documents provided to the committees include a brochure from the Attorney General on Human Trafficking ([Attachment 6](#)) and a Regent University Law Review on the topic of a legislative framework for combating domestic minor sex trafficking. ([Attachment 7](#))

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 18, 2012.