

Approved:
Date: January 29, 2002

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND INSURANCE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Sandy Praeger at 9:30 a.m. on January 24, 2002 in Room 234 N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present: Dr. Bill Wolff, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Ken Wilke, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
JoAnn Bunten, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Steve Rarrick, Deputy Attorney General
Matthew D. All, Assistant Insurance Commission, KID
Mary Ann Deagle, SRS

Others attending: See attached list.

Introduction of bills

Steve Rarrick, Deputy Attorney General, requested introduction of a bill that would amend the Discount Card Deceptive Practice Act to provide investigative and enforcement remedies to the Attorney General by making the Discount Card Act part of the Kansas Consumer Protection Act. (Attachment 1) Senator Teichman made a motion that the Committee introduce the proposed legislation, seconded by Senator Salmans. The motion carried.

Special Orders

The Chair noted that Subsection (d) of K.S.A. 9-1715, as amended requires the State Bank Commissioner to provide the Committee with a summary of Special Orders issued by their office in 2001. In a letter dated January 17, 2002, from Franklin W. Nelson, Bank Commissioner, he noted that their office did not issue any Special Orders in 2001. (Attachment 2)

Report on Health Insurance Survey

Matthew D. All, Assistant Insurance Commissioner, briefed the Committee by way of a power-point presentation on the results of a health insurance survey funded by a federal grant to the state of Kansas and overseen by the Kansas Insurance Department. Mr. All noted that a steering committee was assembled and their goal is to develop a plan to make health insurance accessible and affordable to all Kansans within five years. Results of the survey are outlined in the attached material. (Attachment 3) During Committee discussion Mr. All noted there are approximately 212,000 uninsured Kansans.

Mary Ann Deagle, SRS, gave a brief presentation on the Business Health Partnership which was established to make access to health care coverage affordable to uninsured working families. A grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation had been received to help in the planning process. She noted that an RFP was issued, and the award granted to Benefit Management, Inc. of Great Bend, Kansas.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for January 29, 2002.