

MINUTES OF THE SENATE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman James Barnett at 1:30 P.M. on February 17, 2005 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Emalene Correll, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Terri Weber, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Norm Furse, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Whitney Nordstrom, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Richard Morrissey, Interim Director of Health, KDHE
Joseph Connor, KALHD
Judy Moler, Kansas Association of Counties
Marcia Nielsen, KUMC
Gianfranco Pezzino, Kansas Health Institute

Others attending:

See attached list.

Hearing on SB 216

SB 216– Infectious or contagious diseases, quarantine and isolation of individuals

Upon calling the meeting to order the Chairperson announced there would be a hearing on **SB 216**, an act concerning infectious and contagious diseases; powers and duties of local health officials and the secretary of health and environment in investigating infectious or contagious diseases; quarantine or isolation of certain individuals. The Chair asked Mr. Norm Furse, Revisor of Statutes, to give a brief overview of the bill.

As there were no questions and/or comments for Mr. Furse, Chairperson Barnett called upon the first proponent conferee to testify. Richard Morrissey, Interim Director of Health, KDHE, stated that **SB 216** is intended to clarify and add to the authority of local health officers and the Secretary to issue and enforce isolation and quarantine orders. Isolation and quarantine are two common public health strategies designed to protect the public by preventing exposure to infected or potentially infected persons. A copy of his testimony is (Attachment 1) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

The Chair called upon the second proponent conferee to testify. Joseph Connor, Kansas Association of Local Health Departments, stated that KALHD has had significant input into the development of **SB 216**. He also stated that this bill is not only a modernization of the quarantine and isolation laws, it is also a way to protect the due process rights of the citizens of Kansas in case of an event requiring isolation and/or quarantine. A copy of his testimony is (Attachment 2) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

The third proponent conferee to testify was Judy Moler, Legislative Services Director, Kansas Association of Counties. Ms. Moler stated that KAC worked with KDHE to craft this bill. This bill is a modernization of the quarantine and isolation laws, and it is also a way to protect the due process rights of the citizens of Kansas in case of an event requiring isolation and/or quarantine. A copy of her testimony is (Attachment 3) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

Chairperson Barnett called upon the fourth proponent conferee to testify Marcia Nielsen, Assistant Professor, University of Kansas Medical Center. Ms. Nielsen stated that given the importance of this issue, and the demonstrated speed and danger that infectious diseases pose, she believes that the State's quarantine laws must be updated to reflect modern emerging infectious disease threats. A copy of her testimony is (Attachment 4) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

The final proponent conferee to testify was Gianfranco Pezzino, Kansas Health Institute. Dr. Pezzino stated

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in his testimony that **SB 216** accomplishes two purposes, both consistent with principles included in the Model State Public Health Act. A copy of his testimony is (Attachment 5) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

The Chair called the Committee's attention to the written testimony provided by Chad Austin, Kansas Hospital Association, in support of **SB 216**. A copy of his testimony is (Attachment 6) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

As there were no opponent or neutral conferees to testify the Chair closed the hearing on the above bill.

Final Action on SB 154

SB 154– Food service standards for public schools

The next order of business was for the Committee to take final action on **SB 154**, an act relating to food and beverages available to students in Kansas school districts; providing for the adoption of certain standards. Chairperson Barnett asked Mr. Norm Furse to give a brief overview of the bill and its amendments. A copy of the amendments is (Attachment 7) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

As there were no questions and/or comments for Mr. Norm Furse, Senator V. Schmidt motioned to accept the amendments to SB 154. Senator Wagle seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

Senator V. Schmidt motioned to pass the legislation as amended favorably. Senator Wagle seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

Final Action on SB 183

SB 183– Scope of practice of federally active licensees under the healing arts act

The next order of business was for the Committee to take final action on **SB 183**, an act concerning federally active licenses under the Kansas healing arts act; amending K.S.A. 65-2809 and repealing the existing section. The Chair asked that Mr. Norm Furse give a brief overview of the bill and its amendments. A copy of the amendments is (Attachment 8) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

Senator Brungardt motioned to accept only the second amendment to SB 183. Senator Jordan seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

Senator Brungardt motioned to pass the legislation favorably as amended. Senator Wagle seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

Final Action on SB 216

SB 216– Infectious or contagious diseases, quarantine and isolation of individuals

The next order of business was for the Committee to take final action on **SB 216**, an act concerning infectious and contagious diseases; powers and duties of local health officials and the secretary of health and environment in investigating infectious or contagious diseases; quarantine or isolation of certain individuals.

Senator Journey motioned to pass the legislation favorably. Senator V. Schmidt seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

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Adjournment

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

The next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 22, 2005.