

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 March 22, 2007 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Senator Jordan – Excused

Committee staff present:

Emalene Correll, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Terri Weber, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Nobuko Folmsbee, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Morgan Dreyer, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Senator Dennis Wilson

Michael Wasmer, DVM, Olathe

Dr. Jo-Ann Harris, Kansas Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics

Dan Morin, Director of Government Affairs, Kansas Medical Society

Richard Morrissey, Deputy Director, Division of Health, Kansas Department of Health and Environment

Others attending:

See attached list.

Upon calling the meeting to order, Chairman Barnett asked that the Committee review the Minutes for March 21, 2007 for approval at the end of the meeting.

The Chair called upon Nobuko Folmsbee to read and explain **SB 1** for the Committee. A handout of the new bill draft was given to the Committee. A copy of the draft is (Attachment 1) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

Questions came from Senators Schmidt and Wagle regarding acknowledgment of a debate and changes/amendments to the bill.

The Chair announced that the next order of business was to open the hearing on **SB 1**.

Hearing on SB 1 – An act concerning public health, relating to vaccinations

A copy of the fiscal note for **SB 1** was available for the Committee to review. A copy of the fiscal note is (Attachment 2) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

Chairman Barnett called upon proponent conferee, Senator Dennis Wilson who stated that the bill now with changes only restricts the use of a small amount of preservatives in vaccines for children seven and under, and for those women who are pregnant. He is not asking for any removal of mercury/preservatives in any other vaccines, such as animal vaccines or vaccines for adult consumption. A copy of his testimony is (Attachment 3) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

Senator Hensley also stated a few words to the Committee as a proponent conferee of the bill. No written testimony was submitted to the Committee.

Comments came from Senator Haley regarding thanking the Senators for bringing this public health concern to the attention of the Committee, balance of supply and demand concerning vaccines, single vs. multi-vile.

The Chair called upon proponent conferee, Michael Wasmer, DVM, Olathe who stated that this bill strongly supports compliance with recommended childhood vaccine schedules. It allows for Kansans to be better-informed consumers, and aims to improve vaccination rates by enhancing public confidence in the safety of our current and future vaccine supply. A copy of his testimony is (Attachment 4) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee at 1:30 P.M. on March 22, 2007 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

Questions came from Senators Haley and Wagle regarding efforts in Missouri concerning legislation like **SB 1**, influenza, vaccination information regarding Dr. Wasmer's children.

Chairman Barnett then called upon opponent conferee, Dr. Jo-Ann Harris, Kansas Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics who stated that she strongly opposes the bill and considers it dangerous to the welfare of the citizens of our state. A copy of her testimony is (Attachment 5) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

Questions came from Senators Schmidt and Wagle regarding supply issues of thimerosal-free vaccines, age difference in 8 to 7 years old, direct contradictions to CDC, ACI, and FDA and best interest of minimal mercury.

The Chair called upon opponent conferee, Dan Morin, Director of Government Affairs, Kansas Medical Society who stated that the Kansas Medical Society believes **SB 1** is unnecessary, studies regarding the hypothetical dangers of thimerosal are highly questionable, and passing the bill will draw attention away from more beneficial discussions concerning diagnosis, treatment, and resources to assist families of those afflicted with autism spectrum disorders. A copy of his testimony is (Attachment 6) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

Chairman Barnett then called upon neutral conferee, Richard Morrissey, Deputy Director, Division of Health, Kansas Department of Health and Environment who stated that if more physicians stop providing immunizations, children requiring vaccinations will likely be referred to local health departments, adding additional steps to the immunization process, which in turn may affect immunization rates in Kansas. A copy of his testimony is (Attachment 7) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

Submitted testimony was available for the Committee to review from Mady Hornig, MD, Director of Translational Research, Jerome L and Dawn Greene Infectious Disease Laboratory. A copy of her testimony is (Attachment 8) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

Submitted testimony was available for the Committee to review from Boyd Haley, PhD, Professor of Chemistry, Department of Chemistry, University of Kentucky. A copy of his testimony is (Attachment 9) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

Submitted testimony was available for the Committee to review from Richard Deth, PhD, Professor of Pharmacology, Northeastern University. A copy of his testimony is (Attachment 10) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

Submitted testimony was available for the Committee to review from Jennifer Lowry, MD, Medical Director, Mid-America Poison Control, Med-America Pediatric Environment Health Specialty Unit, University of Kansas Medical Center. A copy of her testimony is (Attachment 11) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

Submitted testimony was available for the Committee to review from Ronald Phillips, Animal Health Institute. A copy of her testimony is (Attachment 12) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

With no time left, the Chair closed the hearing on **SB 1** and announced that the next order of business was for the approval of Minutes.

The motion was made by Senator Schmidt to approve the Minutes. It was seconded by Senator Journey and the motion carried.

Adjournment

As there was no time left, the meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

There is no future meeting scheduled at this time.