

Approved: _____
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Garry Boston at 1:30 p.m. on January 23 in Room 210 Memorial Hall

All members were present except: Representative Nancy Kirk, Excused
 Representative Brenda Landwehr, Excused

Committee staff present: Dr. Bill Wolff, Kansas Legislative Research Department
 Norman Furse, Revisor of Statute's Office
 June Evans, Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Representative Kathe Lloyd
 Deb Hollon, Legislative Research Department
 Lesa Roberts, Kansas Department of Health & Environment

Others attending: See Attached Sheet

The following bills were introduced:

Debra Zehr, Vice President, Kansas Association of Homes and Services for the Aging requested a bill to provide the state, in partnership with private providers of long term care services, should initiate a comprehensive and sustainable program that provides a process for quantifiable and continual improvement in the quality of long term care and services, support and training for the workers who provide long term care and services and fiscally prudent funding to prepare for the anticipated increase in the number of older Kansans that will need long term care services in the years ahead.

Chris Collins, Kansas Medical Society, requested a bill amending K.S.A. 60-427 regarding the confidentiality of information about drug-seeking patients and amending K.S.A. 65-6004 HIV/HepB reporting to Good Samaritans.

The Chairperson stated the bills were introduced with no objections.

Representative Kathe Lloyd stated the 2000 Joint Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee took testimony from numerous people regarding students with head lice which was the number one cause of truancy among younger children. The Oversight Committee made some proposed changes in the current compulsory attendance law to tighten the rules across the state and are asking the Health and Human Services Committee to address the head lice issue ([Attachment 1](#)).

Deb Hollon, Fiscal Analyst, Kansas Legislative Research Department, stated the Joint Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice Oversight recommended in its annual report to the Legislature that recognizing that health problems such as head lice can break the pattern of attendance and initiate truant behavior in elementary age children, the Joint Committee recommends that the issue of head lice be examined by the House Health and Human Services and the Senate Public Health and Welfare Committees. Specifically, the Joint Committee suggests review of the possibility of county nurses serving as resources in eradicating homes of lice and of local school districts determining at what point students who have had lice should return to school ([Attachment 2](#)).

Discussion followed and Representative Lloyd suggested a video for school nurses to show parents because many of them could not understand the written information.

Representative DeCastro stated that videos in several languages were available to school nurses.

Lesla Roberts, Director, Health Occupations Credentialing, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, gave

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, Room 210, Memorial Hall at 1:30 p.m. on January 23.

a briefing on the Health Occupations Credentialing Act. Credentialing review is accomplished through a process outlined in the law and the administrative rules and regulations. The Health Occupations Credentialing Act requires that any health profession seeking credentialing by the state apply to the Secretary of KDHE and participate in a thorough review of the occupation and its impact on health care and the health and safety of the citizens of Kansas (Attachments 3 & 4).

Representative Palmer questioned what were the benefits of licensing?

Ms. Roberts said that public accepts licensing better and there are remunerative benefits.

The Chairperson appointed a Sub-Committee on Licensing with the charge of “the purpose of the sub-committee is to develop expertise in the area of licensing, certification and registration. Formulating recommendations to the standing committee regarding the recommended avenue to pursue licensing. The sub-committee will make recommendations regarding a future course for those wishing to obtain licensing. Previous credentialing, or lack of same, shall be considered in making the recommendation to the full standing committee.

The committee should return a recommendation for each request for licensing. The Chairman (or designee) shall make the majority report for the sub-committee. A minority report may be authorized by the Health & Human Services Chair provided time and circumstances permit. Should two committee reports (majority and minority) be issued each will be included in the minutes of that day. The majority report will be the only report used to determine future action of the standing committee. The sub-committee report will be voted upon by the entire standing committee present on the day the vote is called. Only one majority (and minority) report will be accepted.

The Sub-Committee members are: “Representatives Morrison, Chair, Lightner, Vice Chair, Sue Storm, Gwen Welshimer, Nancy Kirk, Lana Gordon, and Ray Merrick.

The meeting adjourned at 2:10 and the next meeting will be January 24.