

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH & WELFARE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Senator Susan Wagle at 1:30 p.m. on January 23, 2001 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Senator Jordan

Committee staff present: Ms. Emalene Correll  
Ms. Lisa Montgomery, Revisor of Statutes  
Ms. Margaret Cianciarulo, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Mr. Robert St. Peter, M.D., President,  
Kansas Health Institute  
Ms. Billie Hall, vice President for Public Affairs,  
Kansas Health Institute  
Ms. Trudy Racine, Director, Office of Planning and Policy  
Coordination, Kansas Department of Social and  
Rehabilitation Services

Others attending: See attached guest list.

### **Overview of Kansas Health Institute**

Upon calling the meeting to order, Chairperson Wagle introduced Dr. Robert St. Peter, M.D., President of Kansas Health Institute who gave an overview of the institute. A copy of the testimony is (Attachment #1) attached and incorporated into the Minutes by reference. Dr. St. Peter said that the institute is an independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit health policy and research organization. He went on to explain the institute's vision, mission, priorities, activities, and projects concluding with the institute's funding sources. A handout "Kansas Health Institute" was also made available which included a copy of their institute's activity portfolio and their quarterly newsletter. A copy of the hand out is on file in the office of the Chairperson Wagle. Questions and comments followed from Senators Haley and Brungardt.

Continuing with more information on the institute, Chairperson Wagle introduced Ms. Billie Hall, Vice President for Public Affairs for the Kansas Health Institute who gave an overview of the Kansas Health Institute Forums 2001. A copy of the overview is (Attachment #2) attached and incorporated into the Minutes by reference. Questions and comments followed from Senators Haley, Harrington, Barnett, Salmans, and the Legislative Researcher, Ms. Emalene Correll.

### **Introduction of Bills**

The next order of business was bill presentation. The Chairperson recognized Ms. Trudy Racine, Director, Office of Planning and Policy Coordination, Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Ms. Racine asked that the Committee introduce legislation that would require a screening and a "ticket letter" from a Qualified Mental Health Professional (QMHP) employed by a Community Mental Health Center (CMHC) prior to admission to a state psychiatric hospital. The second legislative proposal amends current legislation requiring a written statement from a QMHP based upon the results of a Pre-Admission Screening and Annual Resident Review (PASARR) is obtained authorizing admission of a patient to a nursing facility for mental health. A copy of her presentation is (Attachment #3) attached and incorporated into the Minutes by reference. The proposed legislation (amendments) were placed before the Committee. Senator Praeger made the motion to hear the proposed legislation. Senator Barnett seconded the motion and the motion carried.

### **Adjournment**

With no further bills or business, the meeting was adjourned. The time was 2:18 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 24, 2001.