

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Edmonds at 1:30 P.M. on February 6, 2006 in Room 313-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Candy Ruff- excused

Committee staff present:

Athena Andaya, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Dennis Hodgins, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Mary Torrence, Revisor of Statutes Office  
Carol Doel, Committee Secretary

Conferees:

Representative Nile Dillmore  
Bob Mackey, Secretary of Administration Office, Director of the Division of Accounts and Reports  
Sandra Vader, President Community Health Charities  
Mari Tucker, Executive Assistant Kansas Bankers Assn.  
Duane Bruce, Attorney  
Nancy Lindquist, ALS coordinator

Others attending:

See attached list

Chairman Edmonds opened the floor for bill introductions and requested a bill relating to qualifications for lobbyist. It specifies that anyone who is a convicted sexual predator cannot serve as a registered lobbyist.

With no objections, this bill was accepted for introduction.

The Chairman related that at the meeting of February 2<sup>nd</sup> he had appointed a subcommittee to look into **SB 62**, and he extended the subcommittee to also include Representative Burroughs and Representative Johnson.

From previous meetings there were question raised regarding **HB 2541** - a bill stating no marriage license for persons 15 and under; persons 16 and 17 may have a license with parent or judicial consent. Athena Andaya, Legislative Research briefed the committee addressing those questions. For committee review, Ms. Andaya, submitted information from the Bureau of Vital Statistics answering questions from the committee regarding ages of brides and grooms. (Attachment 1)

Chairman Edmonds directed attention to **HB 2727** - concerning state officers and employees; relating to certain payroll deductions, and opened the floor for public hearing.

Representative Nile Dillmore was recognized as endorsing **HB 2727** and related that Community Health Charities (CHC) is statewide federation and has a strong record of providing a cost-efficient fund-raising opportunity for employers, employees, and its member charities. He strongly urged the committee to pass this bill favorably. (Attachment 1) Representative Dillmore also called attention to testimony from Judy Keller, Executive Director, American Lung Association of Kansas who also supports **HB 2727**. Ms. Keller's testimony stated that they endorse the bill because 1) it provides additional options for the state's 37,000 employees, 2) it would offer encouraging charitable giving options to many established, reputable, voluntary health organizations that cannot currently participate, 3) it would create a level playing field for health federations. (Attachment 2)

Also endorsing the passage of **HB 2727** was Robert L. Mackey, Division of Accounts and Reports, Kansas Department of Administration. In their opinion the bill amends existing laws concerning charitable organizations to which state employees may elect to contribute through payroll deduction. The bill also amends the term "United Way Organization" to include "other charitable federations which are eligible to be deducted from federal employees payroll pursuant to federal law." (Attachment 3)

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Federal and State Affairs Committee at 1:30 P.M. on February 6, 2006 in Room 313-S of the Capitol.

Community Health Charities was represented by the President, Sandra Vader who spoke on their behalf supporting **HB 2727**. Ms. Vader opined that this is a cost effective way for charities to raise funds, it benefits community health charities and is a distinctive way to make a difference. She also included a chart showing, in terms of the economy, the 2006 program grants for the March of Dimes. (Attachment 4)

Mari Tucker, Coordinator for the Topeka Area ALS Support Group and the Event Chairperson for the annual Walk to D'Feet ALS in Topeka delivered testimony in favor of **HB 2727**. Ms. Tucker related that her husband was a victim of ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis) and since his passing, she has been committed to increasing awareness of ALS and generating funds to support the ALS Association. She appeared today to encourage the adoption of **HB 2727**. (Attachment 5)

Duane Bruce, Attorney, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, delivered testimony supporting **HB 2727**. Mr. Bruce is a member of the boards of Community Health Charities, the National Sickle Cell Disease Association of America, and the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America. It is with these causes in mind that Mr. Bruce appeals to the committee to consider the passage of **HB 2727**. (Attachment 6)

Nancy Lindquist, patient coordinator for ALS also known as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis or "Lou Gehrig's disease" addressed the committee in support of **HB 2727**. Ms. Lindquist stated that there is little help for those individuals with ALS, however, their Chapter continues to provide all the patient services, education, awareness, and advocacy they can. They urge the passage of **HB 2727**. (Attachment 7)

With no other persons wishing to address **HB 2727**, Chairman Edmonds closed the public hearing.

The Chairman next directed attention to **HB 2541** - No marriage license for persons 15 and under; persons 16 & 17 may have license with parent or judicial consent.

Representative Myers made a motion to pass **HB 2541** favorable for passage. Representative Brunk seconded the motion.

*Representative Miller made a substitute motion to increase the age 18 and anyone under 18 not to marry without permission. Representative Loganbill seconded the motion.*

*After committee discussion regarding increasing the age to 18, Representative Miller withdrew her motion.*

*Chairman Edmonds returned the original motion to move **HB 2541** our favorable for passage. Motion adopted.*

With no further business before the committee, Chairman Edmonds adjourned the committee