

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chair Brenda Landwehr at 1:30 P.M. on February 5, 2007 in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:
Tom Holland- excused

Committee staff present:
Norman Furse, Revisor's Office
Melissa Calderwood, Legislative Research
Mary Galligan, Legislative Research
Patti Magathan, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:
Dr. Paul Terranova, KU Medical Center
Dr. David Prentice, Family Research Council

Others Attending:
See Attached List.

Chair Landwehr opened the floor for bill introductions. There were none.

Chair Landwehr announced that there will be a luncheon on February 6 in Room 313-S. The speaker will provide an overview of "The Connector." The same speaker will present to a joint session of our committee and the Senate Committee on Health Care Strategies at 1:30.

Chair Landwehr then opened hearings on **HB2098 - Defining certain terms relating to human cloning.**

Dr. Paul Terranova, Vice Chancellor for Research at University of Kansas Medical Center, testified from a neutral position on **HB 2098**. (Attachment 1) Dr Terranova stated that he would not address ethical or emotional issues related to embryonic stem cells. He did point out that some of the definitions in **HB 2098** are not consistent with the definitions developed by the National Academies of Sciences (N.A.S.), and strongly encouraged the committee to use the N.A.S. guidelines in their legislative work. He then reviewed terms used in **HB2098** and supplied the N.A.S. definitions for them, pointing out that using the term "cloned embryo" to differentiate between embryos created through somatic cell nuclear transfer and embryos created through sexual reproduction is not appropriate since identical twins are natural clones. He also suggested that the committee review the Kansas Health Policy Stem Cell Legislative Study since it provides a comparison of terms.

Dr. David Prentice, Family Research Council, testified as a proponent of **HB 2098**. Dr. Prentice went thru a slide show presentation which provided definitions of terms with corresponding pictures. (Attachment 2) Dr. Prentice stated that his understanding of HB 2098 is to nail down terms which are difficult to define. The bill does not take a position for or against cloning, but merely defines terms. There is no federal restriction on human cloning. Congress has instead prohibited use of taxpayer funds for research. Private funds may still be used for research.

Written testimony was provided by proponents Kansans for Life, Kansas Catholic Conference, and Concerned Women of America. (Attachments 3, 4, and 5)

Opponents providing written testimony were Kansas Coalition for Life Saving cures, Biotechnology Industry Organization, and Americans for Stem Cell Therapies & Cures. (Attachments 6, 7 and 8)

Chair Landwehr closed hearings on **HB 2098**. Meeting was adjourned at 3:10 P.M. Next meeting is February 6 at 1:30 in room 231-N. This will be a joint meeting with the Senate committee on Health Care Strategies.