

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 February 21, 2007 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

All members were present.

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:

Kyle Smith, Deputy Director, Kansas Bureau of Investigation
Jerry Slaughter, Kansas Medical Society
Dr. Marcia Nielsen, Executive Director, Kansas Health Policy Authority
Bill Sneed, as legislative counsel for America's Health Insurance Plans

Others attending:

See attached list.

Upon calling the meeting to order, Chairman Barnett asked that the Committee review the Minutes for February 15, 2007 for approval at the end of the meeting.

The Chair called the Committee's attention to view the requested information from Craig Barbee regarding **SB 201**. A copy of this requested information is (Attachment 1) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

The Chair also called the Committee to look at the requested information regarding a statute from Nobuko Folmsbee relating to hearing on **SB 229**. A copy of this requested information is (Attachment 2) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

Chairman Barnett called upon Emalene Correll to read and explain **SB 302**, **SB 354**, and **SB 243** for the Committee. The Chair then announced that the next order of business would be to open the hearing on **SB 302**.

Hearing on SB 302 – An act creating a controlled substances monitoring task force; prescribing the duties thereof

The fiscal note for **SB 302** was available for the Committee to view. A copy of the fiscal note is (Attachment 3) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

Chairman Barnett called upon the first proponent conferee, Kyle Smith, Deputy Director, Kansas Bureau of Investigation who stated that this legislation would create a task force to address the two greatest difficulties involving controlled substances facing Kansas law enforcement and public health agencies. A copy of his testimony is (Attachment 4) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

The Chair called upon proponent conferee, Jerry Slaughter, Kansas Medical Society who stated that such a program, particularly if it allowed real-time access via a secure Web-based system, could be an extremely valuable tool to physicians and other clinicians as they assess the appropriateness of prescribing controlled substances, particularly for unfamiliar patients in emergency or urgent care settings. A copy of his testimony is (Attachment 5) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

Written testimony was submitted by Julie Hein, on behalf of Kansas Pharmacy Coalition. A copy of her testimony is (Attachment 6) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

Written testimony was also submitted to the Committee by Ron Gaches, on behalf of Kansas Independent Pharmacy Service Corporation. A copy of his testimony is (Attachment 7) 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 February 21, 2007 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

Senator Schmidt commented that she fully supports this bill.

Questions from the Committee came from Senators Haley, Wagle, Journey, Schmidt, and Brungardt regarding chain stores like gas stations, interim for this bill, **SB 270**, definition task force compensation, tracking systems, and real-time systems.

The Chair then closed the hearing on **SB 302**.

The motion was made by Senator Schmidt to move the bill out favorably. It was seconded by Senator Journey and the motion carried.

Chairman Barnett then open the hearing on SB 243.

Hearing on SB 243 – An act concerning health insurance; relating to dependent coverage

The fiscal note for **SB 243** was available for the Committee to view. A copy of the fiscal note is (Attachment 8) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

The Chair called upon proponent conferee Dr. Marcia Nielsen, Executive Director, Kansas Health Policy Authority who stated information on **SB 243** including KHPA vision and goals, demographics, reasons for young adults being uninsured, impact on health, policy options, fiscal note for the state employee health benefits plan. Graphs included information regarding young adult Kansans uninsured at a higher rate than older adults, young adults comprise one-third of uninsured working age Kansans, 2004-2005, racial/ethnic minority Kansans are more likely to be uninsured than non-Hispanic whites. A copy of her testimony is (Attachment 9) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

Questions came from Senator Palmer regarding where the money figures came from.

Chairman Barnett then called upon Bill Sneed, as legislative counsel for America's Health Insurance Plans who stated that they are very concerned regarding changes that states make with respect to extension of adult children's coverages. Thus, they urge the Committee to act cautiously on this bill. A copy of his testimony is (Attachment 10) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

Questions came from Senators Barnett, Palmer, and Wagle regarding self-insurance, policy increases, mandates, and coverage for children through college.

The Chair then closed the hearing on **SB 243**.

The motion was made by Senator Wagle to include all group policy into the bill. It was seconded by Senator Palmer and the motion carried.

The motion was made by Senator Haley to move the technical changes/clarifications to the bill. It was seconded by Senator Wagle.

The motion was made by Senator Wagle to move the bill out favorably. It was seconded by Senator Palmer and the motion carried.

Chairman Barnett announced that since the Committee had ran out of time they would push the hearing for SB 354 to the next meeting and that the final item on the agenda was for the Minutes to be approved for the Senate Public Health and Welfare committee on February 15, 2007.

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

Adjournment

As there was no more time, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee at 1:30 P.M. on February 21, 2007 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 21, 2007.