

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Daniel Hawkins at 1:30pm on Wednesday, March 18, 2015, 546-S of the Capitol.

All members were present

Committee staff present:

Scott Abbott, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Jennifer Ouellette, Legislative Research Department
Patrick Orr, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant
Erica Haas, Legislative Research Department
Norm Furse, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Representative Tom Sloan, 45th district
Tom Bell, Kansas Hospital Association
Steve Kelly, Newton Medical Center
Dr. Bob Moser, M.D., University of Kansas Hospital
Terry Dunn, Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce
Marcillene Dover, consumer
Dr. Karl Ulrich, MD, Via Christi Health
Jerry Slaughter, Kansas Medical Society
Dr. Lynn Fisher, M.D, Kansas Academy of Family Physicians
Dr. Mark Norris, O.D. Kansas Optometric Association
Bryan Brady, First Care Clinic
Scott Bruner, Kansas Health Institute

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

Hearing on: (proponents) HB2319 — State medical assistance program; expansion of eligibility.

Chairman Hawkins opened the hearing on **HB2319**. The meeting took place in room 548 South of the State Capitol. Norm Furse, staff revisor, gave highlights of the bill. ([Attachment 1](#)) ([Attachment 2](#))

Chairman Hawkins outlined the rules for testimony and spectators for this hearing and then opened the floor to proponents.

Representative Tom Sloan from the 45th district testified in favor of this bill. Expanding Medicaid means it will improve health care outcomes through innovative cost-effective programs with performance auditing, and will also improve the financial health of healthcare providers. In addition it provides a funding stream for the State's share of expanded dollars, and do so by protecting Kansans who are the core of this model. The bill would establish the Kansas Healthcare Administrative Support Fee within the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and also introduce a tiered fee system. All programs will be offered statewide to ensure full federal participation in reimbursing health care

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Health and Human Services at 1:30pm on Wednesday, March 18, 2015, 546-S of the Capitol.

providers. If federal support for the program falls below ninety percent reimbursement, the State may re-evaluate continued participation. ([Attachment 3](#))

Tom Bell of the Kansas Hospital Association and Steve Kelly brought joint testimony. They testified that Kansas hospitals should thoughtfully develop a unique, Kansas-based solution that brings dollars back to Kansas, grows jobs, provides state budget relief, and moves towards "self-sufficiency." ([Attachment 4](#)) ([Attachment 5](#))

Dr. Bob Moser, M.D. is the director of the Kansas Heart and Stroke Collaborative, an effort driven by the University of Kansas Hospital, Hays Medical Center, and eleven critical care hospitals. He testified that expansion is critical for Kansas because our providers need it and so do our people. By moving forward with Medicare expansion, we can give the Governor flexibility to revisit KanCare and increase eligibility to more individuals and families who need extended benefits. If we can get them insurance, we also get them access to affordable health care which in turn translates to healthier families and a healthier workforce. ([Attachment 6](#))

Terry Dunn from the greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce testified that without KanCare expansion, the state's uninsured will continue to seek access to health care in the most expensive place - the emergency room - leading to increased costs for all Kansas taxpayers. ([Attachment 7](#))

Marcillene Dover, a Kansas consumer, testified the Multiple Sclerosis Society lends its support to Medicaid expansion so that all qualified Kansans have access to affordable, comprehensive health care. She was diagnosed with MS in 2013 and has struggled with the disease since then. She is lucky for now to receive her medication through a patient assistance program called Project Access. She encouraged the committee to support this bill. ([Attachment 8](#))

Dr. Karl Ulrich, M.D. from Via Christi Healthcare, our mission is to care for people whether or not they can pay. Expanding this can provide access to save Kansas more money for admissions and ER visits. ([Attachment 9](#))

Jerry Slaughter of the Kansas Medical Society this is about increasing care for those who are uninsured with safeguards built into it. It is about increasing care about those who cannot get healthcare. As a result of changes at the federal level, the federal support has been greatly reduced for Kansas hospitals and will help mitigate this problem. ([Attachment 10](#))

Dr. Lynn Fisher, M.D. represents the Kansas Academy of Family Physicians. He is in private practice in rural Kansas. When he accepts patients into his office he does not screen them on what kind of insurance they have. If more patients had insurance, he would be able to impact their health in a more meaningful and positive ways. As a family physician, he always tries to prevent problems before they turn into costly health conditions. ([Attachment 11](#))

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Health and Human Services at 1:30pm on Wednesday, March 18, 2015, 546-S of the Capitol.

Dr. Mark Norris of the Kansas Optometric Association testified expansion will reduce costly trips to ER and can have significant impact on a patient's overall health. This will result in considerable health care cost savings. ([Attachment 12](#))

Larry McElwain from the Lawrence Chamber of Commerce. It's not about what we have but what others do not have. He urged support for this bill. ([Attachment 13](#))

Bryan Brady of the First Care Clinic KAMU supports this bill. Expansion means an increase in revenue and increased capacity. Access to health care is necessary to care. KANCARE expansion can remove the disincentive to not work. Those who go back to work make just enough money that disqualifies them from health insurance. ([Attachment 14](#))

Proponents then stood for questions from the committee.

Proponents submitting written testimony only were:

Healthcare Providers:

Agape Health Clinic ([Attachment 15](#))

Anderson County Hospital ([Attachment 16](#))

Association of Community Mental Health Centers of Kansas - Kyle Kessler ([Attachment 17](#))

Coffeeville Medical Center ([Attachment 18](#))

Counseling Inc ([Attachment 19](#))

Dr. Gerard Brungardt ([Attachment 20](#))

Geary County Hospital ([Attachment 21](#))

Gove County Medical Center ([Attachment 22](#))

Hays Medical Center ([Attachment 23](#))

HealthCore Clinic ([Attachment 24](#))

Health Management of Kansas ([Attachment 25](#))

Health Partnership Clinic ([Attachment 26](#))

Hiawatha Community Hospital ([Attachment 27](#))

Horton Community Hospital ([Attachment 28](#))

JO County Health & Environment ([Attachment 29](#))

KAAP ([Attachment 30](#))

KS Association of Healthcare Executives ([Attachment 31](#))

KS Association of Hospital Attorneys ([Attachment 32](#))

KS Association of Local Health Departments ([Attachment 33](#))

Kansas Association of Osteopathic Medicine ([Attachment 34](#))

Kansas City Healthcare Communicators Society

([Attachment 35](#))

Kansas Council of Health System Pharmacists ([Attachment 36](#))

Kansas Dental Hygienists ([Attachment 37](#))

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CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Health and Human Services at 1:30pm on Wednesday, March 18, 2015, 546-S of the Capitol.

KS Emergency Medical System Association ([Attachment 38](#))
KHCA ([Attachment 39](#))
KS Occupational Therapy Association ([Attachment 40](#))
KS Organization of Nurse Leaders ([Attachment 41](#))
KS Pharmacists Association ([Attachment 42](#))
Labette Health ([Attachment 43](#))
Lawrence Memorial Hospital ([Attachment 44](#))
Mankato Professional Pharmacy ([Attachment 45](#))
Mercy Hospital - Fort Scott ([Attachment 46](#))
Mercy Hospital - Independence ([Attachment 47](#))
Mitchell County Hospital ([Attachment 48](#))
Neosho Hospital ([Attachment 49](#))
Norton County Hospital ([Attachment 50](#))
Pawnee Valley Community Hospital ([Attachment 51](#))
Phillips County Hospital ([Attachment 52](#))
Providence Medical Center ([Attachment 53](#))
Rawlins County Health Center ([Attachment 54](#))
Riley County Health Department ([Attachment 55](#))
St Francis Health ([Attachment 56](#))
Saint Johns Hospital ([Attachment 57](#))
Saint Lukes - Leavenworth ([Attachment 58](#))
Saint Lukes - Overland Park ([Attachment 59](#))
Salina Family Healthcare Center ([Attachment 60](#))
Medical Society of Sedgwick County ([Attachment 61](#))
Shawnee County Health Agency ([Attachment 62](#))
Shawnee Mission Health ([Attachment 63](#))
Sisters of Charity Leavenworth ([Attachment 64](#))
Stormont Vail ([Attachment 65](#))
Saint Catherine Hospital Garden City ([Attachment 66](#))
Susan Allen Hospital ([Attachment 67](#))
Turner House Children's Clinic ([Attachment 68](#))
United Methodist Mexican-American Ministries ([Attachment 69](#))
University of Kansas Hospital ([Attachment 70](#))
Wilson Medical Center ([Attachment 71](#))

Other Healthcare Organizations:

American Heart Association ([Attachment 72](#))
Health Care Foundation - 1 ([Attachment 73](#))
Health Care Foundation - 2 ([Attachment 74](#))
Health Care Foundation - 3 ([Attachment 75](#))
Health Reform Resource Project ([Attachment 76](#))

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Doug Gruenbacher KS Academy of Family Physicians

[\(Attachment 77\)](#)

Kansas Advocates for Better Care [\(Attachment 78\)](#)

Kansas Association of Community Action Programs [\(Attachment 79\)](#)

Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved (KAMU) [\(Attachment 80\)](#)

Kansas Health Consumer Coalition [\(Attachment 81\)](#)

Kansas Health Foundation [\(Attachment 82\)](#)

Kansas Medicaid Access Coalition [\(Attachment 83\)](#)

March of Dimes [\(Attachment 84\)](#)

Mother & Child Health Coalition [\(Attachment 85\)](#)

National Alliance on Mental Illness - Kansas [\(Attachment 86\)](#)

Northeast Kansas Community Action Programs [\(Attachment 87\)](#)

Oral Health of Kansas [\(Attachment 88\)](#)

Planned Parenthood [\(Attachment 89\)](#)

Reach Healthcare [\(Attachment 90\)](#)

United Methodist Health Ministries [\(Attachment 91\)](#)

Business/Economic Development:

Beloit [\(Attachment 92\)](#)

Civic Council of Greater KC [\(Attachment 93\)](#)

East Central Kansas Economic Opportunity Corporation (ECKAN)- Richard Jackson [\(Attachment 94\)](#)

ECKAN Stories [\(Attachment 95\)](#)

Garden City Area Chamber of Commerce [\(Attachment 96\)](#)

Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce [\(Attachment 97\)](#)

Horton Chamber of Commerce [\(Attachment 98\)](#)

Hutchinson Chamber of Commerce [\(Attachment 99\)](#)

Independence Chamber of Commerce [\(Attachment 100\)](#)

Kansas Association of Counties [\(Attachment 101\)](#)

Kansas Center of Economic Growth [\(Attachment 102\)](#)

Kansas Economic Progress Council [\(Attachment 103\)](#)

Kansas City Area Chamber of Commerce [\(Attachment 104\)](#)

Mitchell County Community Development [\(Attachment 105\)](#)

NE Johnson County Chamber of Commerce [\(Attachment 106\)](#)

Overland Park Chamber of Commerce [\(Attachment 107\)](#)

Pittsburg Chamber of Commerce [\(Attachment 108\)](#)

Shawnee Chamber of Commerce [\(Attachment 109\)](#)

Thrive Allen County [\(Attachment 110\)](#)

Wyandott Chamber of Commerce [\(Attachment 111\)](#)

Individuals and Others:

AARP of Kansas [\(Attachment 112\)](#)

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MINUTES of the Committee on Health and Human Services at 1:30pm on Wednesday, March 18, 2015, 546-S of the Capitol.

Kansas Action for Children ([Attachment 113](#))
League of Women Voters ([Attachment 114](#))
Ninth Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas ([Attachment 115](#))
North Central Kansas Technical College ([Attachment 116](#))
Plymouth Congregational Church Lawrence ([Attachment 117](#))
Unitarian Fellowship of Lawrence ([Attachment 118](#))
United Community Services of Johnson County ([Attachment 119](#))
United Way of Greater Kansas City ([Attachment 120](#))
Acosta, Edward ([Attachment 121](#))
Bullers, Finn ([Attachment 122](#))
Conyers, Randy ([Attachment 123](#))
Corona, Darline ([Attachment 124](#))
Feldkamp, Lesta Bell ([Attachment 125](#))
Foster, Charlotte ([Attachment 126](#))
Gangel, Elaine ([Attachment 127](#))
George, Marna ([Attachment 128](#))
Hannon, James ([Attachment 129](#))
Harrison, Tandem ([Attachment 130](#))
Hoover, Lou ([Attachment 131](#))
Jennings, Eulaula ([Attachment 132](#))
Lindsly, Linda ([Attachment 133](#))
Lockner, Allyn ([Attachment 134](#))
Lofgren, Joyce ([Attachment 135](#))
Maxfield, Kali ([Attachment 136](#))
McIntire, Dot ([Attachment 137](#))
McM. Kenney, PhD Ann ([Attachment 138](#))
Megill, Keith & Vi ([Attachment 139](#))
Myers, Marjorie ([Attachment 140](#))
Nunnery, Bobbie ([Attachment 141](#))
Pack, David ([Attachment 142](#))
Packet, Gloria ([Attachment 143](#))
Peebler, Claudia ([Attachment 144](#))
Ralston, John ([Attachment 145](#))
Rayes, Cathie ([Attachment 146](#))
Seymour, Julia ([Attachment 147](#))
Seymour, Valetta ([Attachment 148](#))
Stieb, Ruth ([Attachment 149](#))
Stotler, Lisa ([Attachment 150](#))
Stuhr, Virginia ([Attachment 151](#))
Suenaga, Alicia ([Attachment 152](#))
Sutton, Craig ([Attachment 153](#))

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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Taylor, Frank ([Attachment 154](#))
Thacker, Kay ([Attachment 155](#))
Thome, Sister Janice ([Attachment 156](#))
Weber, Mary ([Attachment 157](#))
Weigel, Larry ([Attachment 158](#))
White, Elise ([Attachment 159](#))
Wickersham, Teresa ([Attachment 160](#))
Williams, Edith ([Attachment 161](#))
Willms, Sonja ([Attachment 162](#))

Chairman Hawkins closed the hearing on **HB2319** to proponents.

Hearing on: (neutral) HB2319 — State medical assistance program; expansion of eligibility.

Chairman Hawkins opened the hearing to neutral parties.

Scott Brunner who is a senior analyst and strategy team leader with the Kansas Health Institute (KHI) testified as a neutral party. He informed the committee that KHI does not take positions on legislation but wants to inform the committee on the issue of Medicaid expansion. ([Attachment 163](#))

He presented information on Medicaid expansion in Indiana and explained the number of Kansans in the "eligibility gap" which means those adults who earn too much income to qualify for Medicaid under the current guidelines. ([Attachment 164](#)) ([Attachment 165](#))

He also explained the Medicaid issues before the United States Supreme Court. He then stood for questions from the committee. ([Attachment 166](#))

Chairman Hawkins closed the hearing at 3:00pm.