

MINUTES OF THE SENATE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Mary Pilcher-Cook at 1:36pm on Thursday, February 04, 2016, 118-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator Michael O'Donnell – Excused

Committee staff present:

Randi Walters, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant

Scott Abbott, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Iraida Orr, Legislative Research Department

Whitney Howard, Legislative Research Department

Kyle Hamilton, Office of the Revisor of Statutes

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Andrew C. Brown, Senior Fellow, Foundation for Government Accountability Action (FGA)

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

Informational hearing:

Chairperson Pilcher-Cook opened the informational hearing on Charity Care.

Andrew Brown, FGA, provided information on a program called Volunteer Care which provides healthcare to the uninsured, the under-insured, and individuals who live in under-served areas of the community. Mr. Brown indicated that it's a two-step solution: provide medical professionals with liability protection for providing care to qualified patients; and, allow them to receive Continuing Medical Education credits for their volunteerism. Mr. Brown stated that they believe Volunteer Care is a valuable tool that can be added to the tools that are already being used to improve access to quality medical care for the most needy Kansans. ([Attachment 1](#))

After all questions by the Committee were addressed, Chairperson Pilcher-Cook closed the informational hearing on Charity Care.

Final action on: SB341--Allowing step therapy for medicaid patients.

Chairperson Pilcher-Cook opened final action on **SB341**, and drew the Committee's attention to a letter from Secretary Susan Mosier, Kansas Department of Health and Environment. ([Attachment 2](#))

Senator Denning distributed and explained a balloon amendment. ([Attachment 3](#))

Senator Denning moved, Senator Love seconded, to adopt the balloon amendment. Motion carried.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Public Health and Welfare at 1:36pm on Thursday, February 04, 2016 in Room 118-N of the Capitol.

Senator Denning moved, Senator Love seconded, to recommend **SB341** as amended, favorably for passage. Motion carried. Senator Kelly and Senator Haley voted no, and requested their votes recorded.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:57 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 8, 2016.