

As Amended by House Committee

As Amended by Senate Committee

Session of 2008

SENATE BILL No. 511

By Committee on Public Health and Welfare

1-29

12 AN ACT relating to ~~health care, concerning the study on bariatric surgery~~
13 ~~for the morbidly obese and its effect on medical expenses and health~~
14 ~~care insurance~~ **the Kansas health policy authority; requiring cer-**
15 **tain studies.**

16
17 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

18 Section 1. (a) The Kansas legislature recognizes that failure to com-
19 bat the medical and societal epidemic of obesity will result in higher
20 mortality rate for the individuals with obesity and disastrous economic
21 impact of medical expenses. The Kansas health policy authority shall con-
22 duct a study on the topic of bariatric surgery for the morbidly obese; the
23 issues include, but not limited to, emerging research evidence of the
24 positive health impact for the morbidly obese, qualification of the patients
25 and the surgeons when the bariatric surgery is appropriate or necessary,
26 cost analysis with insurance and medicaid reimbursement.

27 (b) In collaboration with the commissioner of insurance, the Kansas
28 health policy authority shall conduct a study on the impact of extending
29 coverage for the bariatric surgery in the state employee health care ben-
30 efits program, *the* affordability of coverage in *the* small business employer
31 group and *the* high risk pool and *the* possibility of reinsurance or state
32 subsidies for reinsurance. The Kansas health policy authority shall submit
33 a report on its findings and present such report to the joint committee
34 on health policy oversight on or before November 1, 2008, *and to the*
35 *senate committee on financial institutions and insurance and the*
36 *house committee on insurance and financial institutions on or be-*
37 *fore February 1, 2009.* The joint committee on health policy oversight
38 may introduce bills based on the study reported.

39 (c) All departments, boards, agencies, officers and institutions of the
40 state and all subdivisions thereof shall cooperate with the Kansas health
41 policy authority in carrying out its duties pursuant to this act.

42 **New Sec. 2. (a) The Kansas health policy authority shall con-**
43 **duct a study, in collaboration with the commissioner of insurance,**

1 **on the impact of providing coverage for hearing aids and related**
2 **expenses to any individual or group policy of accident and sickness**
3 **insurance providing medical, surgical or hospital expense cover-**
4 **age, to the state health care benefits program and to any municipal**
5 **self-funded pool.**

6 **(b) The Kansas health policy authority shall submit a report on**
7 **its findings and present such report to the senate committee on**
8 **financial institutions and insurance and the house committee on**
9 **insurance and financial institutions on or before February 1, 2009.**

10 **(c) All departments, boards, agencies, officers and institutions**
11 **of the state and all subdivisions thereof shall cooperate with the**
12 **Kansas health policy authority in carrying out its duties pursuant**
13 **to this section.**

14 **(d) The study conducted under this section, at a minimum,**
15 **shall comply with the provisions of K.S.A. 40-2249, and amend-**
16 **ments thereto.**

17 **(e) For the purposes of this section, the term “hearing aid”**
18 **shall have the meaning ascribed to it in K.S.A. 74-5807, and amend-**
19 **ments thereto.**

20 **Sec. 2. 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
21 publication in the statute book.