

Approved 2-10-83
Date sh

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE

The meeting was called to order by Marvin Littlejohn at
Chairperson

1:30 a.m./p.m. on February 9, 19 83 in room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Theo Cribbs, excused.

Committee staff present: Emalene Correll, Research Department
Bill Wolff, Research Department
Bruce Hurd, Revisor's Office
Sue Hill, Secretary to Committee

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Dr. Robert Harder, Secretary of the Social Rehabilitation Services.
Mr. Charles Hamm, General Council for the SRS
Marjorie Van Buren, Unified Court Systems
Mr. Phil Magathan, Shawnee County Court Services
Dr. William Albott, Kansas Psychological Association

Visitor's register, see (Attachment No. 1.)

Chairman called meeting to order.

Chair welcomed a large number of visitors from a group called (CLOSE-UP), some from Rep. Harder's school district.

Fiscal notes were distributed to committee members on HB 2103 (see Attachment No. 2.), and HB 2143, (see Attachment No.3.).

Chair noted we will be holding hearings today on HB 2091, HB 2096, HB 2098 HB 2099, HB 2100, and HB 2103.

HB 2091 hearings began.

Dr. Robert Harder, Secy. of SRS spoke briefly on this bill, concerning venue of proceedings for adoption of children. Then he introduced Mr. Charles Hamm, General Council for SRS. (See Attachment No. 4.)

Mr. Hamm stated this will prohibit non-Kansas residents from adopting in Kansas. They recommend on page 2. of HB 2091, beginning on line 49, insert language as indicated on attachment No. 4.

HB 2096.

Dr. Harder commented that basically this bill is to take the SRS out of these investigative proceedings. Dr. Hamm gave a follow-up to Harder's remarks. The SRS has over the last 4 years lost 78 positions in this area, and their workload is further increasing, so a decreased responsibility in this area of investigating child custody in divorce action as stated in (Attachment No. 5.)

Ms. Van Buren of the Unified Court System expressed concern from those she represents that if the SRS is taken out of this area of investigative work, it puts a great overload on her department, and there will not be custody studies done in the time frame they should be.

Questions put to this problem about having private licensed social workers to do this investigative study, and it was determined it could be done in this manner.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE,

room 423-S, Statehouse, at 1:30 a.m./p.m. on February 9, 1983

HB 2096 hearings continue:-

Mr. Phil Magathan , Shawnee County Court Services spoke of his department's opposition to this bill because of personnel point of view basically. They cannot handle the overload.

Dr. William Albott, of Kansas Psychological Association, Topeka, Ks., recommended changes in HB 2096, as indicated on page 2. of the handout he distributed to committee. (See Attachment No. 6.). This concerns 60-1615 (B), with unintended abridgment of confidentiality of patients. Dr. Albott stressed this is a dire abridgement of personal rights.

Chair noted that request for a deletion of part of a law that has just gone into effect on January 1, 1983, after a study of 2 years. Noted concern that perhaps Judiciary should check into this amendment.

So--- HB 2096 will have no action until Judiciary is contacted.

HB 2098

Dr. Harder and Mr. Hamm distributed (Attachment No. 7.) and noted they hope that Sec. 1. of K.S.A. 65-509 will have inserted a clause prohibiting individuals from advertising for children to adopt, in any form of the news media. (See Attachment No. 8.)

Dr. Holloway was present at committee today, and commented that his views are in support of those of SRS on HB 2098.

HB 2099

(Attachment No. 9.) was distributed by Dr. Harder. The SRS proposes to remove them (SRS), from involvement in these adoption procedures, It is the hope of their department that alternate sources of service in this area will be used. They feel with present and future cut-backs in their departments, they must un-hook from some of their current workload.

Ms. Van Buren's views are not opposing the bill, but stressed that her department (Unified Court System) can not handle this either. If the bill goes through, the result would be that the adopting parents will be responsible for paying the licensed social worker for the investigative study that is necessary, Ms. Van Buren stated.

HB 2100

Dr. Harder stated that the SRS wishes to have some clean-up work done on this bill, and requested that he be held up in committee until it could be joined with a bill coming from Judiciary.

Chairman stated Bill so noted.

HB 2103

Chairman noted that committee had been provided with a fiscal note on this bill.--referring to attachment No.2.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE,
room 423-S, Statehouse, at 1:30 pm/p.m. on February 9, 19 83.

HB 2103 hearings continue.-

Dr. Harder gave a detailed explanation of how and why these photo I.D. cards would benefit the state, the merchants that cash the checks, and those who receive the checks. There has been a pilot program on this that has worked quite well.

Dr. Harder fielded many questions on this I.D. program.

There were a great number of questions put to all the conferees on each of the bills this date, and much discussion on each as well.

Hearings completed and Chair noted that Staff hand-outs at an earlier meeting on Health Planning should be studied by committee members before hearings resume again on HB 2014. This hand-out will inform the committee in regard to the Certificate of Need.

Meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Date: 2-9-3

GUEST REGISTER

HOUSE

pg 1 of 2

PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE

Please Print

NAME	ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS
Jenelle Sprick	Close Up Kansas	Holyrood, Ks.
Sandra Klima	Close Up Kansas	Holyrood, Ks.
TERRI VERTHALER	CLOSE-UP KANSAS	LORRAINE, KS
Amy Whaley	Ulysses Close-UP KAN.	Ulysses, Kansas
Joe Peden	Close-up KANSAS	Ulysses, KANSAS
Shelley MacKinnon	" "	" "
Susan Stein	Close-up Kansas	Ulysses, Kansas
Kelley Staggs	close-up Kansas	Lindsborg, KS
Judi Walter	Close-up Kansas	Meade, Kansas
CINDY KUNZE	CLOSE-UP KS	BUHLER-KS
Greg Dean	Close-up KS	Buhler-KS
JERRY KROEKER	CLOSE-UP KANSAS	BUHLER, KANSAS
Chester Peckover	Close-up Kansas	Buhler, Ks.
Janell Haskins	Close-up Kansas	Topeka, Ks.
William L. Albott Ph.D.	Ks. Psychological Assoc.	Topeka, Ks.
Robert Haydey	SRS	Topeka
Carol Ann	SRS	Topeka
ROBERT C BARNUM	SRS	TOPEKA
Majorie Van Buren	Unified Court System	Topeka
Wuth Groves	KCCY	Topeka

(Attachment no. 1.)

Fiscal Note
1983 Session
February 9, 1983

Bill No.

The Honorable Marvin Littlejohn, Chairman
Committee on Public Health and Welfare
House of Representatives
Third Floor, Statehouse

Dear Representative Littlejohn:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for House Bill No. 2103 by Committee
on Public Health and Welfare

In accordance with K.S.A. 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning House Bill No. 2103 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

House Bill No. 2103 would authorize the Secretary of Social and Rehabilitation Services to issue photograph identification cards to public assistance recipients in order to improve the administration of the social welfare program.

The Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services estimates that implementation of photo ID cards in Topeka, Kansas City, Wichita, Olathe, Leavenworth and Lawrence would result in issuance of 50,000 cards during the first year, at a cost of approximately \$46,462. Federal matching funds would be available to pay roughly half the total cost, thus requiring a State General Fund expenditure of \$23,231. First year costs include the addition of one Clerk-Typist II and two part-time intermittent positions, for additional staff costs of \$21,712; the purchase of three new cameras, for a total cost of \$6,000; and film cost of \$18,750. Costs after the first year are expected to be lower, with as much as a fifty percent reduction in the number of cards issued. Second year costs are estimated at \$28,000, half of which is State General Fund.

The cost estimates of the department are based on actual experience in Kansas City, Kansas where SRS issues photo ID cards on a voluntary basis.

The cost estimates associated with House Bill No. 2103 are in addition to the amounts recommended for SRS in the Governor's Budget Report.

Janice L. Johnson

Janice L. Johnson
Policy Analyst
For the Director of the Budget

JLJ:bj

*(Attachment
No. 2.)*

Fiscal Note
1983 Session
February 8, 1983

Bill No.

The Honorable Marvin Littlejohn
Committee on Public Health and Welfare
House of Representatives
Third Floor, Statehouse

Dear Representative Littlejohn:

SUBJECT: Fiscal note for House Bill No. 2143 by
Representative Niles

In accordance with K.S.A. 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning House Bill No. 2143 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

This bill changes a nursing school accreditation from a biennial to a four-year cycle. The bill also provides for a fee increase from \$300 biennially to \$500 for the four-year cycle and provides for a temporary (not to exceed six months) accreditation with a fee of \$100.

The executive administrator of the Board of Nursing reports that this bill will have an adverse affect on the FY 1984 budget, as recommended by the Governor. The agency estimates that by changing from the present two-year cycle to a four-year cycle a revenue loss of \$14,800 would be experienced in FY 1984. The agency further estimates that a provision in the bill requiring two additional meeting times will result in \$3,000 expenditures for board members to attend such meetings (\$1,500 for each additional meeting).

The net impact would be \$17,800 (loss in revenue and additional expenses) negative when compared with the recommendations in the 1984 Governor's Budget Report. The balance as estimated to be carried forward from FY 1984 to FY 1985 in the Board of Nursing Fee Fund would be reduced by \$17,800 (from \$92,922 to \$75,122).



E. A. Culbertson
Principal Budget Analyst
For the Director of the Budget

EAC:dh

(Attachment
No. 3.)

STATE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES

House Bill No. 2091

1. Short Title of Bill:

An act relating to the probate code; concerning venue of proceedings for adoption of children; amending K.S.A. 59-2203 and repealing the existing section.

2. Problem:

Delete from Section I, K.S.A. 59-2203 the sentence permitting non-residents to file to adopt in Kansas.

3. Background of the Bill:

In the last decade the number of healthy infants available for adoption has decreased while the number of families wishing to adopt has increased. In several states criminal prosecutions have occurred as a result of "baby selling" rings. As a result of state's concerns over the exploitation of adoptable children, many states have passed legislation to provide that adoption should only be arranged by adoption agencies.

As more states have passed laws requiring pre-investigation of adoptive families before placement or prohibiting non-agency placements, more out-of-state families have filed petitions in Kansas courts.

4. Rationale for Support of Legislation:

The change would reduce the number of non-resident families coming to Kansas to circumvent the laws of their states; it would eliminate the number of petitions that the court would have to process with inadequate or non-existent information and reduce the potential of children being placed through the black market.

In addition to providing more protection to children, this change also would be beneficial to Kansas taxpayers as they would no longer be underwriting the cost of investigating families that live in other states.

NOTE: This amendment reinstates language in current law which allows persons who are non-residents to adopt Kansas children who have been placed in the custody of a child placing agency in Kansas and that agency has placed the child with the proposed adoptive parents. This would include adoption cases where the child had been placed in Kansas with a Kansas couple who subsequently moved to another state prior to the final adoption proceedings. As well as those cases where a child was placed by a licensed Kansas child placing agency with out-of-state proposed adoptive parents.

Office of the Secretary
February 8, 1983

(attachment
no. 4.)

HOUSE BILL No. 2091

By Committee on Public Health and Welfare

(By request)

1-25

0018 AN ACT relating to the probate code; concerning venue of
0019 proceedings for adoption of children; amending K.S.A. 59-
0020 2203 and repealing the existing section.

0021 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

0022 Section 1. K.S.A. 59-2203 is hereby amended to read as fol-
0023 lows: 59-2203. Proceedings for the probate of a will or for
0024 administration shall be had in the county of the residence of the
0025 decedent at the time of ~~his or her~~ death; if the decedent was not a
0026 resident of this state, proceedings may be had in any county
0027 wherein said decedent left any estate to be administered as
0028 provided in K.S.A. 59-805 *and amendments thereto*. Proceedings
0029 for the appointment of a guardian may be had in the county of the
0030 proposed ward's residence or where the proposed ward may be
0031 found. Proceedings for the appointment of a conservator shall be
0032 had in the county of the proposed conservatee's residence; if the
0033 proposed conservatee resides without this state, proceedings
0034 may be had in any county in which any of the proposed conser-
0035 vatee's property is situated. Proceedings for the administration of
0036 a partnership estate by the surviving partner shall be had in the
0037 county of the residence of the deceased partner at the time. If the
0038 deceased partner is a nonresident of the state the proceedings
0039 may be had in any county in which any of the partnership
0040 property is situated. Such proceedings first legally commenced
0041 shall extend to all of the property of the decedent or proposed
0042 conservatee in this state.

0043 If the proceedings are instituted in more than one county, they
0044 shall be stayed except in the county where first commenced until
0045 final determination of venue. If the proper venue is determined

0046 to be in another county, the district court, after making and
0047 retaining a true copy of the entire file, shall transmit the original
0048 to the proper county. Proceedings by a person seeking to adopt a
0049 child shall be had in the county of the residence of ~~such that~~
0050 person if ~~such person is a resident of the state. If such person is a~~
0051 ~~nonresident of the state such proceedings shall be had in the~~
0052 ~~county in which the child to be adopted resides, except that if the~~
0053 ~~child is in the custody of an institution or agency authorized by~~
0054 ~~the laws of this state to place children for adoption such pro-~~
0055 ~~ceedings shall be had in the county in which such institution or~~
0056 ~~agency is located. If such a person resides upon or is stationed at~~
0057 a United States military post or reservation within this state; and
0058 the child to be adopted is then residing with ~~such that~~ person,
0059 adoption proceedings may be had in the district court of the
0060 county in which ~~such the~~ post or reservation is located; or in the
0061 district court of any county located immediately adjacent to such
0062 county.

0063 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 59-2203 is hereby repealed.

0064 Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and
0065 after its publication in the statute book.

If the child is in the custody of an institution or agency authorized by the laws of this state to place children for adoption, the proceedings shall be had in the county in which the institution or agency is located.

STATE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES

House Bill No. 2096 ✓

1. Short Title of Bill:

An act concerning domestic relations, relating to child custody investigations; amending K.S.A. 1982 Supp. 60-1615 and repealing the existing section.

2. Problem:

✓ Amendment to K.S.A. 1982 Supp. 60-1615, regarding domestic relations, to remove SRS from investigating child custody situations in a divorce action.

3. Background of the Bill:

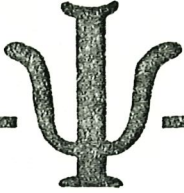
Last year language in K.S.A. 60-1615 was changed to insert SRS in the list of people or agencies authorized to conduct child custody investigations in divorce matters. This formalized an informal arrangement previously utilized by district court to have our staff do the home investigations to determine the most appropriate custodial parent.

4. Rationale for Support of Legislation:

With the additional responsibilities on SRS staff from the new Juvenile Code, it becomes imperative that SRS staff be removed from duties which are clearly not a part of the mission of the agency. The deletion of SRS from the list of people or agencies authorized in the statute would leave court services officers or any consenting person or agency employed by the court to carry out the needed investigations. Therefore, there would be adequate coverage of the job to be done without SRS staff.

Office of the Secretary
February 8, 1983

(Attachment
no. 5.)



KANSAS PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

February 9, 1983

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today and to offer testimony in regard to House Bill 2096. My name is William L. Albott, Ph.D. I am a certified psychologist and today I am here on behalf of the Kansas Psychological Association, its Board of Governors, and its president, Dr. Larry Boll. I have also been asked to indicate that the Kansas Psychiatric Society and the Menninger Foundation are supportive of our recommended changes.

A number of certified psychologists and other mental health professionals have recently expressed their concerns about two sections of the statutes concerning Divorce and Maintenance. Our comments today will address those concerns expressly limited to 60-1615 (B). The concerns which have been voiced all stem from our belief that these sections result in an unintended abridgment of confidentiality of relationship between therapist and the patient/client.

Confidentiality between physician/psychiatrist and patient and between psychologist and patient/client is not something which our professions take lightly. Psychotherapy is an activity that requires that the patient/client reveal his or her inner most private thoughts, feelings, wishes, fears, conflicts, etc. To reveal these very private aspects requires a very special sense of security and trust in the therapy process and in the integrity of the therapist. To reveal oneself in this manner requires that we believe that this information will only be used to help. Without this foundation of trust, the process of therapy becomes essentially just another social/interpersonal event and thus the patient/client will continue to exercise strong censorship in what is revealed. It is our belief that any breach of the confidentiality implicit in

*(attachment
no. 6.)*

the relationship between therapist and patient/client runs the risk of increasing the risk to the patient/client that his or her problems will not surface and receive the appropriate and therapeutic attention. As the sections are now written, it would seem almost necessary to develop a Miranda type statement to present to all patients/clients informing them that should they ever be involved in a divorce wherein there is a custody dispute then they should be aware that records of their treatment will be possibly used in the custody proceedings.

In section 60-1615 (B), our concern is that access to all prior medical, psychiatric, psychological, etc. records clearly disregards the confidentiality of these records. We believe that because patients are divorcing and there is a dispute about custody, this does not justify the abridging that had been a confidential relationship between a therapist and a child as patient. We believe that the court may well need information regarding the psychiatric and psychological issues, we believe though that a more effective method that preserves the confidentiality can be used. We believe that a court can order a diagnostic evaluation and have the report of this evaluation sent to the judge who can then make it available to the court investigator. Such a course would preserve any prior confidential relationships and would still facilitate acquiring relevant and pertinent psychiatric or psychological information.

A To this end we would like to suggest the following changes in 60-1615(B):

"In preparing the report concerning a child, the investigator may consult any person who may have information about the child and the potential custodial arrangement so long as the person does not or has not had a confidential relationship with the child. Upon order of the court, the investigator may refer the child to professional personnel for diagnosis. The investigator may consult with such court designated/appointed personnel and obtain information from such medical, psychological, psychiatric, or

other expert person, without obtaining the consent of the parent or the child's custodian."

Again, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you.

STATE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES

House Bill No. 2098

1. Short Title of Bill:

An act relating to the disposition of children; amending K.S.A. 65-509 and repealing the existing section.

2. Problem:

Insert in Section 1 of K.S.A. 65-509 a clause prohibiting individuals from advertising for children to adopt in any form of news media.

3. Background of the Bill:

With increased frequency individuals or attorneys representing clients who wish to adopt are running advertisements in newspapers, weekly shoppers and periodicals seeking parents who want to place their children for adoption. Most advertisements are directed toward unmarried mothers who may be vulnerable to exploitation. For the most part the advertisements are placed by individuals residing in states where non-agency adoptions are illegal.

4. Rationale for Support of Legislation:

The practice of advertising for children to adopt encourages the "trafficking" and "marketing" of children across state lines and increases the potential of individuals profiting from the adoption. There is no way for the parent, who may be acting in good faith, to make a determination on whether this is simply a family wanting a child or a front for an illegal operation. Seeking children from states such as Kansas where non-agency adoptions are legal aids families in circumventing the laws of their own state.

Such advertisements tend to entice the parents who feel they are in a particularly desperate situation. Seldom are parents offered any counseling around the relinquishment of their child or given the opportunity to explore alternative plans.

Office of the Secretary
February 8, 1983

(attachment
No. 7.)

261 Special Notices

ACTION ADS

3 Lines - 3 Days

\$3.00

3 Lines - 7 Days

\$7.00

\$1.00 extra for each additional line

Special rates for non-commercial advertisers selling single item merchandise priced at \$500 or less. The price must be in the ad. Ads must be paid-in-advance or charged to MasterCard or Visa. No refunds for early cancellation. Call 295-1122 to place your

ACTION AD

AIR TERMINAL OPPOSITION RALLY & PARADE, 10AM, SEPTEMBER 18th, SOUTH CAPITAL STEPS.

DMSO & Willard Water, exotic undies, gag gills, jokes, novelties, vibrators, candy pants, edible undies, emotion lotion, body paints, massage oils, etc. Come on in - you'll see things you've never seen in your life! D & M DISCOUNT 836 North Kansas Ave. (next to Topeka Carnival)

For Sale CHEAPI 3 Tickets to KU football, band day Sept. 18th, \$25 or offer. Call 232-9008 after 5pm

GRANDPARENT'S DAY

Is This Sunday

Suprise them with a Capital-Journal Greeting! Greetings can be phoned in until 12:00 Noon Saturday.

PHONE: 295-1122

If you drink that's your business. If you want to quit, that's our business. A.A. Topeka Home Group, 272-3933.

KARATE - JUDO

New classes, quality instruction, low rates, free uniforms. Est. 1961. 1511 Huntoon, 296-9202 or 354-7888.

Learn to Dance and have fun. Fall classes forming now. Call in Step Dance Studio, 918 Kansas, 233-7084.

LOW COST INSURANCE

Call Ford Agency for terms-273-4720

Personal, Marriage, Family problems? 267-4064 Christian Counselling Referral Service. Our 7th Year

PREGNANT? WORRIED?

For Confidential Free Help... Call BIRTHRIGHT 234-0701

\$100,000 REWARD FOR WITNESS TO WASHBURN U. ADMINISTRATOR'S SLANDERS: DR. BARTLOW, 233-9249.

SACRIFICE - full length Tourmaline mink coat, 2 yrs. old. Seldom worn. Like new. Beautiful style. Call 266-5340 or 234-5501.

STRESS, GRIEF, ANGER

Feel better by Thinking better. 24hr Answering 25yrs Exp Westport Counsel-273-3678

W/M kind very loving wants very loving attractive W/F live in for a very loving companion. Call 233-4944

Want, lady, part-time living your home, single, 30's-40's, adult material, confidential. Give telephone number and information to Box W-697, Capital-Journal, 616 Jefferson St. Topeka 66607

WANTED - BABY TO ADOPT. Cash Collect. Ask for SHERI or MARY 517-750-1420 OR 517-750-3678

ZIGGY'S SANDWICH SHOP

(Attachment no. 8.)

STATE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES

House Bill No. 2099

1. Short Title of Bill:

An act concerning adoption; relating to procedures therefor; amending K.S.A. 1982 Supp. 59-2278 and repealing the existing section.

2. Problem:

Revision of K.S.A. 1982 Supp. 59-2278 to remove the requirement that the Secretary of SRS be notified of all adoption petitions filed in Kansas courts and make recommendations to the court on all such adoptions, and instead require that the petitioners purchase the assessment from a person licensed to practice social work in Kansas.

3. Background of the Bill:

Kansas courts have utilized the expertise and flexibility of SRS social service staff to assess and prepare reports for the court on approximately 500 non-agency adoptions a year, another 250 private agency adoptions are also processed through SRS. SRS staff conducting such services has decreased due to budget constraints, making it necessary to find alternate sources in the community to provide such services.

4. Rationale for Support of Legislation:

It cost SRS approximately 6,000 social service hours to conduct such assessments annually. It is believed that such services could be purchased from individual licensed social workers or private agencies by the family wishing to adopt. This would free existing staff for other duties, such as assessing adoptive families wishing to adopt children for whom SRS has service responsibility.

Office of the Secretary
February 8, 1983

*Attachment
No. 9.*

STATE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES

House Bill No. 2100

1. Short Title of Bill:

An act amending K.S.A. 1982 Supp. 38-1602 and repealing the existing section.

2. Problem:

The current statutes address duties and acts to be performed by Superintendents of Youth Centers, such as releasing on conditional release and discharging from custody. Two of the Youth Centers have chief executive officers operating under the title of Director instead of Superintendent. This difference in nomenclature creates some vagueness and should be corrected. The Directors have the same powers and occupy the same functional position.

3. Rationale for Support of Legislation:

The proposed legislation would simply amend the current statute and eliminate the vagueness.

Office of the Secretary
February 8, 1983

STATE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES

House Bill No. 2103

1. Title of Bill: An act relating to social and rehabilitation services; authorizing photograph identification cards for recipients of assistance.
2. Purpose of Bill: House Bill 2103 authorizes the Secretary to issue program recipients photo identification cards.
3. Why the Bill: Case workers, because of their large case-loads, are experiencing an ever increasing difficulty in identifying clients when called upon to do so in the course of welfare fraud prevention and prosecution activities. This hampers (1) the agency's ability to prevent fraud in some cases and (2) effective prosecution. An example of this problem is set forth below:

Recently an SRS area office suspected that a client was now living out of state but had serious difficulties proving same because a relative of the client continued to make all scheduled appearances for the client at the area office. Further, there was no one in the area office that could positively identify that the person making the appearances was not the client.

- The number of unauthorized persons obtaining medical services through the illegal use of valid SRS medical cards continues to increase.
 - SRS continues to experience some trouble in regard to the processing of lost/stolen warrant replacement requests. Even though such requests remain few in number in comparison to overall issuances, the investigation of same is time consuming and staff intensive. Further, SRS continues to experience public relation problems with the financial community.
 - Finally, SRS clients are also experiencing increasing trouble in cashing their state warrants in the larger metropolitan areas.
4. Possible problems with the Bill: SRS clients may feel that the use of photo identification cards violates their right to privacy, etc.
 5. SRS Recommendations: The Secretary of Social and Rehabilitation Services should be granted the authority to issue photo identification cards to program recipients. This

would assist the agency and our providers in client identification, help assure financial institutions that the payee and the endorser are one in the same and help clients to cash their state warrants.

The initial results from a voluntary pilot project in Kansas City (2,700 cards issued in 15 months) indicate (1) client acceptance, (2) financial institution acceptance and (3) easier client identification for fraud prevention and prosecution activities.