

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE

The meeting was called to order by Marvin L. Littlejohn at
Chairperson

1:30 ~~a.m.~~/p.m. on February 21, 1984 in room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Rep. Jessie Branson, Excused
Rep. Gary Blumenthal, excused

Committee staff present:

Bill Wolff, Research
Norm Furse, Revisor
Sue Hill, Secy. to Committee

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Ms. Elizabeth Carlson, Board of Healing Arts.
Representative Arthur Douville
Mr. Gabe Faimon, Commission on Hearing Impaired, Dept. of SRS
Dr. Robert Harder, Dept. of SRS.
Sharon Cook, Council for Hearing Impaired, Topeka.
Mike Nunn, Wichita, consumer.
Ken Clark, Olathe, consumer.
Representative Elaine Hassler
Mr. Bob Barnum, Youth Services, Department of SRS
Lois Jebo, Kansas Action for Children
January Scott, Ks. Commission for Prevention of Child Abuse
Marjorie Van Buren, Office of Judicial Administration, Topeka
Elizabeth Taylor, Ks. Association for Education of Young Children

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

Chairman called meeting to order, asking pleasure of committee on the minutes of February 9, February 13, February 14th. Motion to approve these minutes was made by Rep. Friedeman, seconded by Rep. Green.
Motion carried.

Hearings began on HB 2996:-

Ms. Elizabeth Carlson noted the Board of Healing Arts recommends doing away with the issuing temporary permits for examination. A temporary permit can be issued from the office when a person wishing to take the exam applies for it. They wish to keep the permit for endorsement which means they have already passed the examination when they are carried under permit for endorsement. She then answered questions, i.e., the permits are issued for 6-8 months, depending on when applied for. Revisor asked about language in line 31 of HB 2996, is it broad enough for their purposes and she asked Don Strole, Attorney for the Board of Healing Arts to answer at this point. It was agreed this language would be adequate for their needs.

Hearings closed on HB 2996.

Bill Wolff, Research gave a short briefing on HB 2893 to committee.

Chairman had committee note that he had received a sub-committee report on SB 536 which extends the life of the Commission on Hearing Impaired through 1992. They are also recommending that the Department of Education and local school districts cooperate more fully with this Commission for the Hearing Impaired for providing services and programs for the hearing impaired school children, and that if this bill is not introduced through the House Public Health and Welfare committee, then the Governmental Organization Committee should introduce it. (See Attachment No. 2. for details of this report.)

Hearings began on HB 2893:-

Representative Arthur Douville spoke in support of HB 2893, stating this is a follow-up which would move the intital bill away from a fact finding

Unless specifically noted, the individual remarks recorded herein have not been transcribed verbatim. Individual remarks as reported herein have not been submitted to the individuals appearing before the committee for editing or corrections.

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 21, 1984

Hearings continued on HB 2893:--

and a coordinating body and to get into the area of a do-something force, saying that we are supporting the hearing impaired population. We want this to be a Do-Committee that will provide telephone service, sign language, interpreter services, health communications messages, etc., and that basically is what this bill is designed to do. He then urged committee to support HB 2893 favorably, and said that Governor Carlin supports this recommendation as well.

Mr. Gabe Faimon, Commission on Hearing Impaired, Department of SRS then spoke to committee, giving hand-out of his testimony, (see Attachment No. 3.), for details. He stated the Commission had developed four points that have been incorporated into HB 2893, i.e., extend life of the Commission for 8 years beyond the date of 7/1/1984; provide the authority for the Commission to offer interpreter services, funded from user fees; conduct statewide message relay services by implementing a statewide toll-free line; conduct fee-supported sign language classes across the state. Further, there are serious problems facing the hearing impaired. They are not hidden issues, but silent issues. He then urged committee to give favorable consideration of HB 2893.

Mr. Faimon then fielded questions from committee, i.e., is there a problem in changing the word "may" to "shall" in line 22, and Dr. Harder then responded at this point, saying that on down the road, it would be self supporting but initially operating funds would be necessary.

Ms. Sharon Cook distributed hand-outs, (see Attachment No. 4., for details of her printed testimony, and Attachment No. 5.) for details of fact sheet. She itemized 4 things that have been incorporated into HB 2893 for increased services for deaf persons, i.e., extend the Commission for 8 years, offer interpreter services, conduct state wide message relay services, conduct fee-supported sign language classes. She explained how the message relay system would work, and then answered questions from committee.

Mike Nunn, a deaf consumer from Wichita spoke very eloquently about the problems that face the deaf, and said it is impossible to speak to these concerns and needs without emotion. They are a proud people, paying taxes, sending their kids to school, and would also like to be able to have some of the benefits of the hearing population, i.e., using the telephone to call police, fire, contracting work done, etc. He urged committee to give them the link with the services described in HB 2893.

Ken Clark, a deaf consumer from Olathe, using an interpreter spoke to committee using sign language, saying that he is judged to be one of the best lip readers around, but that in fact he misses 40% of the conversation, this is typical. He told of stumbling blocks a deaf person is against when trying to convey messages, i.e., fire, police, physicians, friends, etc. They, the deaf are very thankful for the Commission that has been set up, but there is so much more that needs to be done. The relay message center would be so wonderful for all the deaf population, and other programs that are stated in HB 2893, and he urged committee for their most serious consideration of favorable passage of this bill.

Hearings closed on HB 2893.

HB 2997 hearings began:--

Rep. Hassler spoke to the concerns of problem of child abuse across the state and said that an increase of \$8.00 on the Court docket fee for filing a divorce petition would go to help on some of the projects that could continue to help fight child abuse. She brought a message from Rep. Turnquist, urging for support of HB 2997. She then distributed

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 21, 1984

HB 2997 hearings continue:--

a letter from Chairperson of Children and Youth Advisory Committee, Georgene Wade, (see Attachment No. 6.), for details.

Mr. Barnum, of SRS spoke to HB 2997, gave hand-out to committee, (see Attachment No. 7.), for details on how the dollars are not coming in, to the proportion of needs, and urged committee for favorable support of this bill.

Lois Jebo, gave hand-out, (see Attachment No. 8.), for details. She spoke of some of the grants that have been given different projects and the help that is being provided, i.e., home health studies, counseling from the time of birth of a child in a high risk situation on through to home visits, educating the latch key children and their families, etc.

January Scott, from Commission for Prevention of Child Abuse gave a hand-out, (see Attachment No. 9.), for details. She stated there is an increase of abuse in children because of 2 factors. The economy, and high incidences of single parent homes. We are working she said to help educate families in how to set forth discipline and other needed areas in the home.

Marjorie Van Buren, Office of Judicial Administration spoke not in opposition to HB 2997, but in the addition of a fee to the Court Docket Fee on the divorce petition. She explained the docket fee structure in the courts, and that this would make a difficult problem in their docket fee systems and asked that the divorce petitions not be singled out. Perhaps the increase could be attached to the marriage license fee she suggested. There was lengthy discussion during and following her comments.

Chairman at this point appointed a sub-committee of Rep. Hassler, Rep. Wagon, and Rep. Niles to study this problem and report back to the full committee as soon as possible.

(Attachment No. 10. was distributed during Ms. Van Buren's remarks. It is from the Office of Judicial Administration.-see for details.)

Please note that Attachment No. 11, and Attachment No. 12 were also distributed to committee. These are both printed testimony on HB 2893.

Elizabeth Taylor is support of HB 2997, but stated the funds are preventative in nature as the money goes for prevention programs only. She does not support however, the intermingling of fees as earlier suggested, further she noted there is a great difference between the programs that are funded from the Childrens Trust Fund and those that will be assigned through the Domestic Abuse Fund, and urged the members of committee to not get them confused.

Chairman urged committee to be prompt for meeting tomorrow as there is much work to be done in the short time allowed.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Date: 2-21-1984

GUEST REGISTER

HOUSE

PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE

Please Print

NAME	ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS
Sharon K. Cook	KCHI	Topoka
Margie Rissman	KCHI	Wichita
DAVID WOOTEN	KCHI	WICHITA
BONNIE WOOTEN	KCHI	WICHITA
Light M. Adams	DHHC'S.	Wichita
Sylvia Garrison	Deaf Hand of Hearing Co. Sen.	Wichita
Lanita A. Motes	Deaf Hand of Hearing Co. Sen.	Wichita
Mitch Cooper	Topoka Independent Living Resources	Topoka
Bobby Gene Fisher	Topoka Assn. of the Deaf	Topoka
Mike Young	Wichita Assn. of the Deaf	Wichita
Sandra Johnson	Topoka KTWC	Topoka
Janet Schalksky	Ks Pkg Council on DP	Topoka
David Bowen	SRS - Youth Services	Topoka
Bob Binn	SRS " "	"
Don Strolo	Bd of Healing Arts	"
Carole Fairman	SRS/Rehab Svcs	Topoka
Basil Kessler	D.H.H.C.S.	Wichita
Ken Clark	Kans. State School for the Deaf	Olathe
Laura B Kraft	ASSOC OF DEAF WITHIN DEAF INDIVIDUAL	PECK KS 67120
Willa Field	DEAF INDIVIDUAL	Wichita Ks 67214

Attn #1
2-21-1984

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

*Attn # 2
2-21-84*

February 3, 1984

TO: House Governmental Organization Committee
FROM: Subcommittee A
RE: Commission for the Hearing Impaired

The subcommittee makes the following recommendations pursuant to its sunset review of the Commission for the Hearing Impaired.

1. The Commission for the Hearing Impaired should be continued in existence under the Sunset Law until 1992. This will be accomplished through enactment of S.B. 536.
2. A House Concurrent Resolution should be introduced by the Committee urging the Department of Education and local school districts to cooperate more fully with the Commission for the Hearing Impaired on providing services and programs for hearing impaired school children.
3. The Commission has requested the introduction of substantive legislation by the House Committee on Public Health and Welfare. If this bill is not introduced by that committee, the Governmental Organization Committee should introduce the bill.

*PH&W
negot (2/17)
HB 2893
1. HB 2715-1*

Subcommittee Members:

Representative Wanda Fuller,
Chairperson
Representative Clarence Love
Representative Alfred Ramirez
Representative Marvin Smith
Representative Kathryn Sughrue

JRM

*Attn. # 2
2-21-1984*



Attn #3
2-21-84

STATE OF KANSAS

JOHN CARLIN, GOVERNOR

STATE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES

REHABILITATION SERVICES

ROBERT C. HARDER, SECRETARY

2700 WEST 6TH STREET
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66606
(913) 296-3911
KANS-A-N 561-3911

Statement Regarding House Bill No. 2893

I. Short Title of Bill

An act concerning the Kansas commission for the deaf and hearing impaired; continuing the existence of the commission under the Kansas sunset law and expanding its duties; fees; amending K.S.A. 1983 Supp. 74-7274, 75-5391, 75-5392, 75-5293, 75-5394, 75-5395, 75-5396, 75-5397 and repealing the existing sections.

II. Background

Budgeting, purchasing, and related management functions necessary for the Kansas Commission for the Hearing Impaired to carry out its statutory charges are administered under the direction and supervision of the Secretary of Social and Rehabilitation Services. As a result, the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services provides office space, facilities and experienced professional assistance for administration of the Commission.

The Commission was created to serve as a collector and clearinghouse for information and as an advocate and coordinator of services and programs for deaf and hearing impaired Kansans. With its statutory authority to make recommendations for needed improvements and serve as an advisory board with regard to new legislation affecting deaf and hearing impaired Kansans, the Commission developed the following recommendations which have been incorporated into House Bill No. 2893:

1. Enactment of legislation which would extend the life of the Commission for eight years beyond its current abolition date of July 1, 1984, continuing existing statutory authority for its operations;
2. Provide authority for the Commission to offer interpreter services, funded from user fees;
3. Provide authority for the Commission to conduct statewide message relay services by implementing a statewide toll-free line; and
4. Provide authority for the Commission to conduct fee-supported sign language classes in various communities across the state.

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2-21-1984

Governor Carlin has endorsed these recommendations of the Commission, including them in "The Governor's Legislative Message", presented on January 10, 1984.

III. Discussion

Considering the very brief time of its existence, the Commission has distinguished itself by the fact that it has started to collect and organize a body of information regarding the status of 173,000 hearing impaired persons in this State. As that information is being developed, clear evidence is emerging that communication access to the community, to society, is a serious problem for hearing impaired Kansans. Communication access is the core issue the Commission is attempting to address in the latter three recommendations cited earlier. That issue exists because: (1) there is an inadequate and unevenly distributed supply of qualified certified interpreters; (2) a message relay system does not exist to make businesses, community organizations and individuals minimally accessible to deaf or hearing impaired persons by telephone; (3) sign language training opportunities exist at only a handful of fixed locations; and (4) lack of understanding by the general public that the exchange of written messages does not overcome English reading comprehension deficits, particularly for pre-vocationally deaf persons.

The issue of communication access, and the absence of a means to effectively communicate that issue, has resulted in denial of the problem. Some of the most difficult areas of access involve day-to-day involvement in community life and basic rights of participation in government. Our governmental system is built on the premise of individual initiative and freedom. Government needs to pursue and promote that premise so that each individual can participate in the community and contribute to society, rather than be deterred and thus become dependent. The Kansas Commission for the Hearing Impaired has demonstrated a role most appropriate for government to pursue and promote individual initiative and freedom. The Executive Director of the Commission, Ms. Sharon Cook, can cite specific examples of how the Commission conducted its operations. Those operations were conducted with minimum appropriation of State resources. The effectiveness of those operations can be significantly enhanced by incorporating the recommendations of the Commission into statute, without a comparable increase in State General Revenue appropriations, through funds generated by appropriate fee authority granted to the Commission.

IV. SRS Position

The recommendations of the Kansas Commission for the Hearing Impaired are reflected in House Bill No. 2893. The Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services urges favorable consideration of this Bill.

Gabriel R. Faimon, Commissioner
Rehabilitation Services
Social and Rehabilitation Services
296-3911
February 21, 1984

KANSAS COMMISSION FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED

FACT SHEET

February 9, 1984

*Attn #4
2-21-84*

Significant accomplishments during the first year of operation include:

- Published 1983 Directory of Resources for Hearing Impaired Kansans. A 50 page booklet distributed free-of-charge to consumers, service providers and other interested parties. Copies were distributed via deaf clubs, the school for the deaf, the booth at the state fair, parents groups, audiologists and speech therapists, conferences, state agencies and board members. Of the 2,000 copies printed approximately 1500 were distributed as listed above while 400 were mailed upon request from the KCHI office. Reactions to the Directory have been positive.
- Published the Survey of Kansas Families with Hearing Impaired Children by Marnie Campbell. Distributed to board members, leaders in the deaf and hearing impaired community in Kansas and in the United States, to various individuals (professionals, parents, deaf individuals) upon request, and to the Kansas legislators. Approximately 300+ copies have been distributed. Reactions to the Survey have been positive, with deep concern over the needs and lack of coordination of services to hearing impaired children and their families in Kansas.
- Co-sponsored 1983 Conference on Deaf-Blindness, September 26-28, 1983 with Kansas PLAN for Deaf-Blind. The conference featured nationally recognized experts in the field of deaf-blindness as well as a panel of consumers who represented the various degrees and combinations of hearing and visual impairment and the specific needs of each group. Approximately 210 individuals attended the conference. The reactions were positive and there are plans to make it an annual conference.
- Co-sponsored Sign Language Instructor/Leadership Training, July 10-15, 1983 with Johnson County Community College Interpreter Training Program and the National Association of the Deaf/NEPTSLI. Thirteen individuals were selected to participate in this week long training, seven of whom were hearing impaired. Reactions were positive and further training was requested by the participants for next year.

Other activities include:

- Provided information and referral to the public and maintained a log of contacts from information and referral
- Coordinated five sign language classes in Topeka with community agencies
- Gave speeches on the Kansas Commission for the Hearing Impaired and on deafness to: Sertoma of Topeka, Rotary Club of Olathe, 3rd grade public school classes in Junction City, Kansas Chapter of the International Association of Personnel in Employment Security, College class at Emporia State University, Kansas Association of the Deaf, Inc. Convention

*Attn #4
2-21-84*

- Attended conferences and conventions: Governor's Conference on Agricultural Disability (March, 1983), American Deafness and Rehabilitation Association (June, 1983), Kansas University's Legislative Conference (January, 1983 and 1984) and Kansas Association of the Deaf, Inc. Convention (June, 1983)
- Co-sponsored appearance in Topeka of Sunshine T00, theatre group from National Technical Institute for the Deaf (March, 1983)
- Attended meetings of consumer groups including: Kansas Association of the Deaf, Kansas Council of Disabled Persons, Kansas Roundtable of Organizations Serving the Hearing Impaired, Inc., Missouri-Kansas Telecommunications for the Deaf, Topeka Association of the Deaf, Olathe Club of the Deaf, Salina Club of the Deaf, Kansas City Chapter of the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf
- Member of Hearing Conservation Advisory Board and attended meetings thereof
- Wrote bi-monthly articles for Kansas Association of the Deaf, Inc. Newsletter
- Provided materials for Kansas Roundtable of Organizations Serving the Hearing Impaired to distribute at the State Fair (September, 1983)
- Met with hospital administrators and concerned deaf individuals to promote compliance with Section 504 of Public Law 93-112
- Coordinated training for Topeka Association of the Deaf from the Office of Civil Rights
- Wrote issue papers for Vocational Rehabilitation budget justification
- In addition to this the Executive Director has interpreted for countless meetings, Vocational Rehabilitation counseling situations, and emergency situations (hospital, police, etc.) -- all of this making heavy inroads on the director's time and energies

Sharon Cook -

Attn #1
2-21-84

STATE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES

Testimony Concerning House Bill 2893

An ACT concerning the Kansas commission for the deaf and hearing impaired; continuing the existence of the commission under the Kansas sunset law and expanding its duties

The Kansas Commission for the Hearing Impaired was established by the 1982 Legislature (K.S.A. 1982 Supp. 75-5391 et. seq.). The purpose of the Commission is to provide a centralized source for information collection and dissemination and to facilitate coordination between public and private organizations that serve hearing impaired individuals.

There are nine (9) categories of deaf/hard-of-hearing people in the Deaf Community. The Deaf Community implies togetherness - many different individuals with varying backgrounds, limitations and needs, but with one common characteristic, deafness or hearing loss. The nine categories are as follows:

Oralists (those relying primarily on lipreading and speech);

American Sign Language users (ASL, those who use a visual-gestural language not based on English);

Users of ASL and English (Bilingual);

Minimal Language users (non-users of English and ASL, those whose communication skills are limited to pantomime and other eclectic means);

Deafened Adults (those who have lost hearing late in life after finishing most of their education but before the aging process could affect their hearing);

Hearing impaired elderly (those who suffer hearing loss in advancing age);

Hard-of-Hearing individuals;

Multihandicapped hearing impaired (those who in addition to hearing loss may also have blindness, learning disabilities, diabetes, cerebral palsy, heart condition, orthopedic disabilities, mental illness, mental retardation, or any combination of the above);

Hearing persons with deaf/hard-of-hearing members in the family.

Deafness or severe hearing loss at an early age may in itself be considered a multihandicapping condition. Depending upon a given hearing impaired individuals' ability to function in the following four areas, he may or may not be

Attn #5
2-21-1984

considered multihandicapped. These four areas are:

- 1) ability to hear and understand speech (with or without a hearing aid)
- 2) ability to speak and be understood by the average person (one who is not accustomed to "deaf speech")
- 3) ability to understand and use the English language
- 4) ability to understand and participate in the mainstream of American life and culture

Given the diversity of the hearing impaired community, the complexity of addressing the broad scope of needs not readily understood by many service providers and the limitations of our staff of two, the Kansas Commission for the Hearing Impaired has nevertheless made gains in improving the quality of life for many hearing impaired individuals.

As an information and referral agency, we are measured by the number of requests for information received, filled, referred to appropriate agencies and organizations, as well as the number of coordination models implemented. Fiscal Year 1983 began with meetings of the Commission members and the hiring of the Executive Director. I assumed my duties January 10, 1983, but the office did not get into full swing until mid-March when our secretary began work and we moved into our present office space. In only a few months, the performance goals for the year were 91% accomplished with the exception of referrals to agencies and organizations. We are currently exceeding the performance goals outlined in our budget and should easily surpass the goals for FY '84 with the exception of referrals. Statistics for the first quarter of Fiscal Year 1984 show requests for information to be already at 36% of our goal or a total of 71 calls. This is particularly significant as the obstacles to telephone accessibility are considerable for most hearing impaired individuals. The requests reflect three major areas of need: interpreting - 51%; sign language instruction - 44%; and telephone/telecommunications device for the deaf message relay - 25%. These three areas of need are incorporated in House Bill 2893.

The ability to provide qualified interpreters on a fee for service basis to businesses, agencies, organizations, and individuals will significantly improve the quality of life for many deaf and hearing impaired Kansas citizens. The establishment of a statewide toll-free message relay service will enhance telephone usage and make telephone service for deaf and hearing impaired people accessible to businesses, agencies, organizations and individuals who do not possess special equipment. The provision of Sign Language instruction will encourage more people who hear normally to communicate with deaf and hearing impaired individuals and provide a vehicle for increasing public awareness of deafness and hearing impairment. These classes will be taught by deaf and hearing impaired instructors whenever possible. Instructors will be contracted by the Commission and paid out of fees collected from participants. Additional funds generated from Sign Language instruction will be used to provide training workshops for instructors. The establishment of statewide services as proposed

in House Bill 2893 will enable deaf and hearing impaired taxpayers access to the mainstream of Kansas life.

Sharon K. Cook, Executive Director
Kansas Commission for the Hearing Impaired
Social and Rehabilitation Services
296-2874
February 21, 1984

CHILDREN AND YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Attn # 6
2-21-84

224 Edgeford Drive
Pratt, Kansas 67124
February 18, 1984

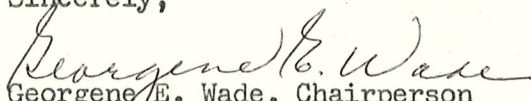
Mr. Marvin Littlejohn, Chairperson
House of Representative
Public Health and Welfare Committee
State Capitol Building
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Littlejohn:

The Children and Youth Advisory Committee at their last meeting, Monday, February 13, 1984, overwhelmingly voted to support the House Bill introduced that date increasing the docket fees involving divorce petitions. This action was taken for the following reasons:

- 1) The alarming increase in the incidence of child abuse and neglect and other problems created by family violence (SRS reports during the month of January, 1984, there were 1,251 Kansas children reported as victims of abuse and neglect or at risk of being so).
- 2) The decrease in the federal and state monies budgeted to deal with these problems.
- 3) Because, at present, not enough funds are generated by the Family and Children's Trust Fund to adequately fund the worthwhile and the needed grant requests that are submitted to the committee for approval.
- 4) This type of fee is particularly applicable since a large percentage of family problems originate in single parent homes.

Sincerely,


Georgene E. Wade, Chairperson
Children and Youth Advisory Committee

Copy to Governor's office for policy file

Attn # 6
2-21-1984

2-21-84
attm #7

INFORMATION FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 2997

Divorce Fee Increase for Family and Children Trust Fund

The Family and Children Trust Fund came into existence in FY 1981. SRS was designated as the administering agency, and the Children and Youth Advisory Committee was charged with providing detailed advice on the award of funds.

A comprehensive set of guidelines were developed which established the fund as a source of seed money for local organizations to start various kinds of abuse and neglect prevention programs. Grantees are currently limited to \$15,000 for the first year and are reduced to 80% the second year and 50% the third year. Local match is required during the second and third year.

During the first three years of operation, the Trust Fund took in \$428,187.20 from the increase in marriage license fees. It received 136 applications for a total of \$1,679,007. Twenty four agencies have been awarded a total of \$337,309.40.

The projects funded have represented a wide diversity of programs. Healthy Start/Home Visitor projects have been started in Atchison, Reno, Republic and Douglas Counties. Parenting Projects have been awarded grants in Shawnee, Barton, Douglas, Leavenworth, McPherson Counties and the Northeast. Prevention/Awareness programs have been funded in Saline, Sedgwick, Miami, the Northwest and Southeast. Domestic violence shelters in Riley and Douglas Counties have been provided funds for programs dealing with children in the shelters. Multifaceted or miscellaneous projects have been started in Sherman, Johnson, Montgomery, and Wyandotte Counties.

An increase in the funds available to the Trust Fund would allow more of the projects which submit applications to receive funding. It would also allow larger grants to be made. In the past, the Children and Youth Advisory Committee has believed that first year grants should be limited to less than \$15,000 in order that a substantial number of projects could be funded. However, it also believes that the \$15,000 limit is too low and should be raised.

attm #7
2-21-1984

kansas action for children, inc.

2053 kansas avenue • p.o. box 5283 • topeka, kansas 66605 • 913/232-0550

*Attn # 8
2-21-84*

February 21, 1984

TESTIMONY OF KANSAS ACTION FOR CHILDREN, INC. - HB 2997

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

The Family and Children Trust Fund was established in 1981. Since that time it has funded 22 local projects and two evaluation projects in all areas of the state. Grants may be given for a three year period starting with as high as \$15,000 and decreasing to 80% funding for the second year and 50% for year three. Matching funds are required for years two and three. Grant recipients are evaluated at yearly intervals. Progress on achieving program objectives and local funding is assessed.

The grants are intended to function as seed money to establish and support programs designed to meet the unique needs of individual localities. The intent is for these localized programs to become fiscally self-sufficient. Many have a volunteer component, keeping costs low.

By statute these grants are preventive in nature. Coupling the cost effectiveness of prevention with local determination on how to best address problems of families and children gives a strong base to begin to attack the high costs of crisis intervention.

Last year the Trust Fund had the fiscal capability of funding only 17 of 46 proposed projects. This year there will be approximately 50 grant applications. Many of the grants given do not receive the maximum amount. Indeed, determination is sometimes made partially on amount sought, so that a larger number of projects may be funded.

The projected revenue of \$140,000 from the divorce filing fee would enable the Trust Fund to give grants to proposed projects denied solely on funding decisions. In addition, excellent projects demonstrating a great degree of success under current funding could be replicated in other areas of the state with like demographics.

*Attn # 8
2-21-1984*

INFORMATION FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 2997

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Attn #9
2-21-84

435 S. Kansas, 2nd Floor
Topeka, Kansas 66603-3792
913-354-7738



**KANSAS COMMITTEE FOR
PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE**

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W. Clement Stone
Dennis Weaver

TESTIMONY OF

JANUARY H. SCOTT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
KANSAS COMMITTEE FOR PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE

H.B. 2997

HOUSE PUBLIC HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE

February 21, 1984

Kansas Committee for Prevention of Child Abuse and its 25 county-wide community coalitions strongly support the passage of House Bill 2997.

KCPKA operates on the following philosophy:

1. If we can prevent child abuse we can prevent many other social problems, i.e. alcohol and drug abuse, mental illness, mental retardation, juvenile delinquency, adult crime, etc.
2. If we are to prevent child abuse, it must be at the community level. Prevention of child abuse must be viewed as a community responsibility.

The Family & Children's Trust Fund provides start-up or expansion grants to communities for community-based prevention projects or educational programs for problems of families and children, primarily, but not limited to, child abuse and neglect and family abuse.

The Trust Fund emphasizes and enhances the ability of the volunteer sector to effectively address the issue of child abuse and neglect. We urge the Committee's favorable consideration of House Bill 2997.

NCPKA

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Attn #9
2-27-1984

STATUTES ESTABLISHING THE KANSAS FAMILY AND CHILDREN TRUST FUND

23-110. Index of records; certified copies; fees; disposition of moneys; family and children trust fund; vital statistics fee fund. The secretary of health and environment shall index all records thus received and, when applied to, shall issue a certified copy of the same which shall be prima facie evidence in all courts and places of the facts stated therein. For each certified copy a fee shall be paid to the secretary in an amount prescribed in accordance with K.S.A. 65-2418 and amendments thereto and to be disposed of in the manner provided therein. The secretary shall keep an accurate account of all fees received from the judges of the district court and all other sources. Such secretary shall remit all moneys received by or for such secretary from the marriage license fee provided for by K.S.A. 1980 Supp. 23-108 and amendments thereto to the state treasurer at least monthly. Upon receipt of each such remittance the state treasurer shall deposit the entire amount thereof in the state treasury. Twenty percent (20%) of each such deposit shall be credited to the state general fund and of the balance of each such deposit, seventy percent (70%) shall be credited to the family and children trust fund, and thirty percent (30%) shall be credited to the vital statistics fee fund. All expenditures from the family and children trust fund shall be made in accordance with K.S.A. 1980 Supp. 75-5328, and all expenditures from the vital statistics fee fund shall be made in accordance with K.S.A. 65-2418.

75-5328. Family and children trust fund; grants, gifts and bequests; expenditures for certain purposes; "educational programs" defined; director of services to children and youth to exercise powers and duties under section. (a) There is hereby created in the state treasury the family and children trust fund. The secretary of social and rehabilitation services may apply for, receive and accept grants, gifts and bequests from any source, governmental or private, for the purposes for which money may be expended from the family and children trust fund under subsection (b), and the secretary shall remit all moneys so received to the state treasurer at least monthly. Upon receipt of any such remittance the state treasurer shall deposit the entire amount thereof in the state treasury and the same shall be credited to the family and children trust fund.

(b) Moneys in the family and children trust fund shall be used for the following purposes: (1) Matching federal moneys to purchase services relating to community-based programs for the prevention of problems of families and children; (2) providing start-up or expansion grants for community-based prevention projects or educational programs for the problems of families and children, primarily but not limited to, child abuse and neglect and family abuse; and (3) study and evaluate community-based prevention projects and educational programs for the problems of families and children. For the purpose of this subsection (b), "educational programs" shall include instructional and demonstration programs whose main purpose is to disseminate information and techniques or to provide services for the prevention of problems of families and children. No moneys in the family and children trust fund shall be used for the purpose of providing services for the voluntary termination of pregnancy.

(c) The advisory committee to the division of services to children and youth established by K.S.A. 75-5325, or its successor, shall advise the secretary and the director of services to children and youth in detail on the expenditures of moneys in the family and children trust fund.

(d) All expenditures from the family and children trust fund shall be made in accordance with appropriation acts upon warrants of the director of accounts and reports issued pursuant to vouchers approved by the secretary of social and rehabilitation services or by a person or persons designated by the secretary.

(e) The secretary shall designate the director of services to children and youth to exercise the powers and perform the duties granted to and imposed upon the secretary under this section.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Secretary of Health and Environment or designee
The Secretary of Social & Rehabilitation Services or designee
The Secretary of Human Resources or designee
The Commissioner of Education or designee
The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court or designee
Two State Senators appointed by the President of the Senate
Two State Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House
Five Members appointed by the Governor

Has broad general powers of oversight with regard to children's programs. Is the final awarding authority for the Family and Children Trust Fund Grants.

FAMILY AND CHILDREN TRUST FUND SUBCOMMITTEE

Four Members of the Children and Youth Advisory Group

One Member Representing Kansas Action for Children
One Member Representing Kansas Committee for the Prevention of Child Abuse
One Member Representing Kansas Association of Domestic Violence Programs
One Member Representing Mental Health Association in Kansas
One Member Representing Kansas Congress of Parents and Teachers

Has primary responsibility for developing guidelines, reviewing grant applications, and monitoring the progress of projects.

FAMILY AND CHILDREN TRUST FUND GRANT AWARDS

- GRANTEE: Regional Crisis Center
 PROJECT TITLE: Children in Crisis
 FUNDING: \$11,940 (2nd yr)
 DESCRIPTION: A support program geared to identifying and alleviating stress as it impacts upon children in crisis. A comprehensive approach of assessment, treatment and/or referral will be conducted under the direction of a child specialist. Assistance via parental skill building and counseling for mothers/parents will be facilitated by a family therapist. Training for staff and volunteers in child development, assessment and case management will be provided on a weekly basis.
- GRANTEE: Parents Time Out
 PROJECT TITLE: Parents Time Out
 FUNDING: \$12,000 (2nd yr)
 DESCRIPTION: This program is designed to provide parent educational support to families. The focus is on positive parenting without overt identification of high risk families. The service is provided based upon ability to pay with low-or-no pay slots reserved for referred or identified high stress families.
- Services include: 1) Respite child care with age appropriate programming focused on development of positive self-image; 2) parent education, including intervention with child care staff about each child and his/her development, a resource library and room, weekly opportunity for support, group discussion and periodic parenting program; and 3) support for identified support and interaction/counseling by the project coordinator around parent/child issues.
- GRANTEE: Domestic Violence Assoc. of Central Kansas
 PROJECT TITLE: Implementation of Educational Services to USD #305 Public Schools on Prevention of Sexual Abuse to Children and Domestic Violence
 FUNDING: \$7,540
 DESCRIPTION: The implementation of educational services to the USD #305 Public School system. Two components of this project are the prevention of sexual abuse of children and understanding of the dynamics of domestic violence within the family unit from a child's perspective.
- GRANTEE: Reno County Health Department
 PROJECT TITLE: Parental Support Project
 FUNDING: \$14,986
 DESCRIPTION: Establish a Basic Parenting Educational Program consisting of 12 two hour sessions; child growth and development, parenting skills and techniques and resources available to assist parents. The course would cover needs of children from infancy to 18 years, and entered at any age level needed by parents.
- GRANTEE: USD #259, Wichita Public Schools, Curriculum Services Division
 PROJECT TITLE: Pilot Project Program for Implementing a Prevention Program on Child Sexual Assault in grades 4-6.
 FUNDING: \$4,905
 DESCRIPTION: This educational program is focused on 1) providing teachers with an understanding of child sexual assault and 2) making children aware

of choices they have for personal safety. Teachers will be trained as well as support personnel through workshops, enabling them to pass on information through the classroom and other contacts with students and parents.

GRANTEE: Four County Mental Health Center
PROJECT TITLE: Sexual Abuse Diversion Program Seminar, Live Productions of Bubbylonian Encounter
FUNDING: \$1,450
DESCRIPTION: A community professional training seminar on the sexual abuse diversion program, an advanced training seminar for community professionals; Live performance of the play "Bubbylonian Encounter" which is for children about the sense of touch and teaches them a definition of forced sexual contact and what to do if it should happen.

GRANTEE: St. Mary College
PROJECT TITLE: Goal Setting - A Realistic Structure for Professionals and Parents in Working with High Risk Children
FUNDING: \$15,000
DESCRIPTION: To provide both professionals and parents with the information and structure needed to set realistic goals and to achieve them as they work with high risk children ages 0-12. It offers a goal-setting conference for professionals in the county and an individualized home parenting program for parents along with developmental services for preschool-age children. With some direction and organization as well as good communications, parents and professionals can become actively involved in prevention of abuse or neglect of children who are borderline candidates for such a condition.

GRANTEE: Johnson County Mental Health Center
PROJECT TITLE: Self-Care Education Project
FUNDING: \$2,500
DESCRIPTION: To publish an instructor's manual for "I'm in Charge", which would be disseminated to Johnson County Coalition for the Prevention of Child Abuse. The number one neglect report in Johnson County is for children left unattended.

GRANTEE: Family & Child Educational Services
PROJECT TITLE: Family & Child Educational Services
FUNDING: \$3,608 (2nd yr)
DESCRIPTION: To prevent child abuse by education through a home visitor program, which is a "grandmother role" volunteer; telephone counseling for crisis and community information on a 24 hour basis; parenting classes; provide education for parenthood in local school system; film service to parents pertaining to parent education; volunteers showing family service films on infant care in local hospital; FOOTSTEPS series for use in home economics and family living classes.

GRANTEE: American Assoc. of University Women
PROJECT TITLE: Atchison Health Start Program
FUNDING: \$7,951.20 (2nd yr)
DESCRIPTION: This program would provide support and assistance for parents with early infant care through a trained volunteer home visitor. This will minimize some of the frustration and stress for new parents, thus decreasing the possibility of child abuse and neglect.

GRANTEE: Catholic Social Services
PROJECT TITLE: ASSIST project
FUNDING: \$11,999.20 (2nd yr)
DESCRIPTION: Single Parents and Family Support Program focused on information, socialization, and recreation, operating on the philosophy that family functioning may be enhanced by providing single parents the opportunity to learn, share, and have some of their own needs met, thereby child abuse or neglect may be reduced or prevented.

The Grantparent group is based on the belief that general family functioning in households incorporating single parents and their children can be enhanced by addressing concerns of grandparents and acknowledging their importance in the parenting process.

These "high risk" families are single, poor, isolated, immature, and have unrealistic expectations of children, personal difficulties and usually reside with own family.

GRANTEE: Johnson County Coalition for Prevention of Child Abuse
PROJECT TITLE: Self-Care Education Project
FUNDING: \$4,800 (2nd yr)
DESCRIPTION: This will be used to develop a manual and provide training (not printing costs or printing plastic cards) "I'm in Charge" for latchkey children and their parents.

GRANTEE: Kansas Research Institute
PROJECT TITLE: Family Life Education: On the Job
FUNDING: \$13,900
DESCRIPTION: This project was to establish and develop a primary child abuse prevention program through a family life education curriculum applicable to industrial and other business settings. Objectives are to improve family functions, reductions in number of children separated from their families, increase job satisfaction and lower overall public costs. Provide a course in family functioning skills through training workshops for company employees during working hours.

GRANTEE: Ourselves and our Families
PROJECT TITLE: Ourselves and our Families
FUNDING: \$15,000
DESCRIPTION: To establish community awareness and prevention program for the prevention of child abuse and neglect through on-going training program for parents to establish effective disciplining skills and education in the role of effective parenting. To establish trained elementary teachers in the program on self-esteem, peer pressure, communication skills, decision-making and problem solving techniques. A primary prevention program for parents in pre-natal care and post-natal care in the home through home visitors.

GRANTEE: Kansas Committee for Prevention of Child Abuse
PROJECT TITLE: Prevention Assistance
FUNDING: \$5,000
DESCRIPTION: This project will provide assistance to the Family & Children Trust Fund Subcommittee in assessing the progress of five trust fund projects and planning for improvement in the second year of the projects of the Trust Fund Subcommittee.

FAMILY AND CHILDREN TRUST FUND GUIDELINES

The Family and Children Trust Fund was authorized in the 1980 Kansas legislative session by Senate Bill 609. The Trust Fund will provide funding for community based projects for the prevention of child abuse/neglect or spouse abuse. The program is administered by the Kansas State Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. The Children and Youth Advisory Committee is responsible for review and approval of proposals.

I. Eligibility of Applicants

To be eligible to receive Trust Fund grants, applicants must be organizations, agencies, community groups, governmental units or sub-units, public schools, colleges, or universities.

II. Proposals Eligible for Funding Consideration

All proposals will be reviewed on the following criteria. If the criteria are met, the proposals are eligible for further review for funding consideration.

- A. Projects which focus on the prevention of child abuse/neglect or spouse abuse will be considered for funding. Prevention projects are those which are directed toward decreasing occurrences of abuse and neglect through community education, parent education, and services to families and children. Projects targeting either high-risk groups or the population at large are eligible.
- B. Projects dealing primarily with alcohol and drug abuse, juvenile delinquency, the developmentally disabled, or providing funds for day care centers will not be considered for funding as there are other grant funds specifically targeted for these services.
- C. The service to be provided is not a duplication of existing services available in the community.
- D. The project develops a new service or substantially expands on existing service. Proposals to simply maintain existing services will not be considered.

III. Proposal Review Criteria

- A. The following criteria will be used in reviewing proposals that are found eligible for funding consideration.
 - 1. Does this project focus on prevention as opposed to treatment?
 - 2. Does the service to be provided offer a reasonable approach to the prevention of child abuse/neglect or spouse abuse in general, and for the target community or group in particular?
 - 3. Innovativeness of the project.
 - 4. Demonstration of community need for the particular type of service.
 - 5. Soundness of project start-up plans. Soundness of plan for on-going provision and administration of the services.
 - 6. Ability of agency to administer the program and deliver the service. Adequacy of staffing pattern and personnel qualifications.
 - 7. Degree to which the proposal reflects cooperation with and support from community, professional and voluntary organizations and individuals.
 - 8. Reasonableness of the budget.
 - 9. Adequacy of plan for assumption of cost by non-Trust Fund sources.

B. In addition, the following guidelines will be followed in proposal review:

1. Special attention will be given to geographical distribution of funds based on congressional districts.
2. In case of equally meritorious proposals for first year funding, priority will be given to projects with some first year community funding.

C. Funding Limitations and Requirements

1. Funding for individual projects will not exceed \$15,000 annually, with exemptions made by the Children and Youth Advisory Committee for regional or exceptionally meritorious proposals.
2. Grant awards for individual projects will be for one year.
3. Projects may be funded for three years subject to the following assumption of cost policy, with exemptions made by the Children and Youth Advisory Committee for exceptional reasons:

	<u>State Funds</u>	<u>Local Funds</u>
First Year	100%	0%
Second Year	80%	20% (of which 20% can be soft match)
Third Year	50%	50% (of which 40% can be soft match)

D. Proposal Submission Process

1. Proposals are to be submitted on the YS-3601 application form, which is available at the local SRS Area Office.
2. Proposals are to be submitted to the local SRS Area Office. The proposal will then be forwarded to the Family and Children Trust Fund Subcommittee for review and recommendation for funding. Final approval will be made by the Children and Youth Advisory Committee.
3. All proposals will be submitted by the applicant to the following groups for informational purposes: city commissions, community corrections boards (where applicable), juvenile courts, school boards, county health departments, and mental health centers. Comments are not required from these groups but would be welcome.
4. Funding cycle:

February 10:	Proposals due in SRS Area Office
March 1:	Proposals received by CYAC from Area Office
May 1:	Award notification
June 1:	Funding

Update: Kansas Trust Fund Lays Groundwork for Nationwide System

by Patricia Rowe

The counteroffensive against child abuse and neglect launched by Kansas in 1980 through its Children's Trust Fund, which uses revenues from surcharges placed on marriage licenses for prevention programs for children (see "Kansas Achieves Nationwide 'First,'" *Human Development News*, April 1982), has sparked 14 other states to enact similar programs.

During 1982 five states — California, Iowa, Michigan, Virginia and Washington — established trust funds and during 1983 legislation was passed by nine others: Alabama, Arizona, Illinois, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Oregon, Rhode Island and Wisconsin.

In a number of other states — including Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Hawaii, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York and Texas — advocacy groups like the Jewish Federation of Springfield (Ill.) and Parents Anonymous of Baton Rouge (La.) have spearheaded campaigns to garner community support

for enactment of trust fund legislation.

Revenues to build Children's Trust Funds are generated by surcharges on marriage licenses, birth certificates or divorce decrees, or by specially designated refunds of the state income tax. Grants from the fund are earmarked for preventive or educational programs for child and family abuse, and distribution of the grants is supervised by an advisory group of individuals with a demonstrated interest in preventing child abuse.

Prevention is the core of the Children's Trust Fund concept, as first conceived by Ray E. Helfer, M.D., a pioneer in the field of child abuse and neglect and former vice president of the National Committee for the Prevention of Child Abuse (NCPA). NCPA President Linden E. Wheeler notes, "Because the development of a stable funding base for community-based child abuse prevention programs is the cornerstone of NCPA strategy, NCPA chapters have been in the vanguard of the Children's Trust Fund movement."

In Kansas, approximately \$130,000 is generated annually for the Family and Children's Trust Fund, which is administered by the Division of Services to Children and Youth under the guidance of the advisory committee. One innovative project spawned by the fund last year was the presentation of the sexual abuse prevention play "Bubylonian Encounter" in a number of elementary schools throughout the state. Positive response to the play prompted NCPA to make it into a film, which is currently being distributed to school systems nationwide. Among other activities, the Kansas fund also sponsors a play program for children subjected to violence at home and programs at the workplace on family functioning skills.

Trust funds in other states support such diversified child abuse prevention activities as child care crisis services, home visitors for new parents, self-care programs for latchkey children and handbooks on child abuse prevention.

Wheeler emphasizes that the Children's Trust Fund approach is marked by flexibil-

ity, enabling communities to coordinate and use their own local resources and design and administer their own programs according to specific needs. For example, while Virginia, Washington, Iowa and Rhode Island, like Kansas, have increased the fees for marriage licenses, California law puts a surcharge on birth certificates.

Michigan takes a different tack: its legislature enables taxpayers to designate up to \$2.00 of their state income tax for the Children's Trust Fund; part of each year's receipts are assigned to fund programs while the rest is invested and earnings are credited to the trust fund. In states like Virginia and Iowa, where policy prohibits creation of a specially designated state money fund, the extra fees from marriage licenses are pooled as general revenues, then passed along to support prevention programs.

The composition of the advisory group also varies from state to state. Michigan statute mandates a board of 15 members. Iowa has an advisory council of five. While some states must include specified

heads of governmental agencies on their boards, others draw all their members from the public sector. In some states governors make appointments, but elsewhere legislative leaders also have appointees.

Thomas L. Birch, coordinator of the National Child Abuse Coalition, of which NCPA is a member, concludes that the trust fund concept works because it is multidimensional: "While the trust fund approach spotlights services to counteract child abuse and neglect, it takes pressure off the regular state social services budget to finance often neglected protective services, fosters creation of community-based programs and shifts some of the responsibility for planning to the community level."

Further information on the Children's Trust Funds is available from Linden E. Wheeler, President, National Committee for Prevention of Child Abuse, 332 S. Michigan Ave., Suite 1250, Chicago, Ill. 60604. ■



Attn #10
2-21-84

State of Kansas

Office of Judicial Administration

Kansas Judicial Center
301 West 10th
Topeka, Kansas 66612

(913) 296-2256

February 21, 1984

To: Lynn Muchmore, Director of Budget
Executive Branch

From: Jerry Sloan, Fiscal Officer
Judicial Branch

Re: House Bill No. 2997

This bill would raise the docket fee for cases involving a petition for divorce from \$55 to \$63 and have the clerk of the court remit this additional \$8 to the State Treasurer to be deposited in the Family and Children Trust Fund.

In FY 1983, 18,543 cases were filed for divorce, separate maintenance, or annulment. We do not maintain a further breakdown in our statistics. Using an estimate of 90% of these cases being divorce petitions, we would assume 16,689 divorce cases were filed. If we further assume an estimated 5% of these are filed with a poverty affidavit in lieu of a docket fee, approximately 15,855 cases would be subject to this increased docket fee. Thus, we might assume that the Family and Children Trust Fund would have increased revenues of \$126,840.

This would also have a fiscal impact on the district courts. Additional staff time would be required to identify these cases from the remaining domestic relations. Additional checking would also need to be done on nondivorce cases (e.g., separate maintenance, etc.) that might be modified to a divorce petition so the additional docket fee could be assessed and collected. This bill would also require additional staff time due to the additional bookkeeping transactions. The divorce docket fee would have to be "spread" to an additional account. Using a conservative estimate of ten additional minutes of staff time per case, it would require an additional 3,090 hours. In many courts, this would require additional temporary help at a cost of \$15,640 in salaries and fringe benefits.

This bill would also require changes in accounting forms and, where applicable, computer programs. These costs would be borne by

Attn #10
2-21-1984

Mr. Muchmore
Re: HB 2997

-2-

February 21, 1984

the counties. The estimated cost of changing accounting forms would be approximately \$18,000. In those counties where the accounting system is computerized, this would require modifications of programs. Since there are only a limited number of programmers to do this work in the Judicial Branch, this would probably require contracting out for these programming changes. I have no estimate at this time what those additional costs would be.

JS:dm



Attn. # 11

2-21-84

TO: Representative Marvin Littlejohn, Chairman
and Members of the House Public Health and Welfare Committee

FROM: Sharaine Rice, Independent Living Specialist *SR*

DATE: February 21, 1984

REGARDING: Passage of H.B. 2893

The WHOLE PERSON, Inc. is an organization of and for disabled people. It is committed to meeting the needs of the deaf and hearing-impaired community, as well as the rest of the disabled community. Currently, The WHOLE PERSON operates a Center for Independent Living in Kansas City. This Center serves disabled people who reside in Johnson and Wyandotte Counties in Kansas, as well as four Missouri Counties. Twenty percent of the consumers served by The WHOLE PERSON are deaf or hearing-impaired.

The WHOLE PERSON supports HB 2893 as it is written now. Traditionally, disabled people have had to fight for their rights to equal access of services available to the able-bodied citizens of our nation. Today the deaf and hearing-impaired people are still fighting for these rights. The Kansas Commission for the Deaf and Hearing-Impaired has provided this group of citizens with a stepping stone to services and the ability to enjoy Kansas to its fullest.

By passing H.B. 2893, you will be giving the Kansas Commission for the Deaf and Hearing-Impaired the authority to take such measures as establishing sign language classes, providing sign language interpreters and oral interpreters for the Kansans who need them, and setting up a toll-free relay center where deaf and hearing-impaired people can call to relay messages such as to their legislators. All of these projects are worthy of your favorable vote.

Deaf and Hearing-Impaired Kansans pay taxes just like all other citizens. They deserve to be able to participate in all aspects of Kansas to their fullest potential. The WHOLE PERSON strongly encourages you to pass H.B. 2893 as it is currently written. Thank you for your consideration.

Attn. # 11
2-21-1984

Kansas Association of the Deaf

Attn #12

Founded 1909

2-21-84

Chartered by State of Kansas in 1910

Cooperating with the National Association
of the Deaf Since 1911

Testimony of Support of HB 2893 -
Continuation of Kansas Commission for the Hearing Impaired and
expansion of its duties

I am William Fansler, chairman of the Kansas Commission for the Hearing Impaired board and due to my work schedule at the time of this testimony, I am unable to appear in person to give full support to HB 2893.

However, I am writing this letter to give this support of the expansion of services to the deaf and hearing impaired people of Kansas.

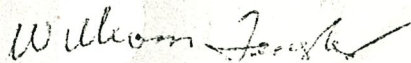
I am a hearing impaired person, and graduated from Kansas School for the Deaf, thus being with deaf and hearing impaired people most of the time. I am also a second vice-president of Kansas Association of the Deaf. Through my experiences with them regarding to communication needs, I can easily see the real needs of providing interpreting services, providing telecommunication message relay service and providing sign language instruction to the public by employing qualified persons to carry out these above services.

The commission board members and the executive director have agreed to expand the duties of the executive director to better serve the deaf and hearing impaired after learning the needs after being in existence for a short time.

These three additions of duties and the addition of the term "deaf" to the bill are very important changes for the commission to function more effectively. They are also necessary in order for these people to have equal access to communication needs like the hearing population.

Thank you for taking your time to read this letter at the time of this testimony.

Sincerely yours,



William Fansler, chairman
Kansas Commission for the Hearing Impaired

Attn. #12
2-21-1984