

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

2/6/86  
Date sh

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 January 30, 1986 in room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Mike O'Neal, excused.

Committee staff present:

Emalene Correll, Research  
Bill Wolff, Research  
Norman Furse, Research  
Sue Hill, Secretary to Committee

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Tom Bell, Kansas Hospital Association  
Pennington Geis, Interested Consumer, Salina, Ks.  
Randy Peterson, American Physical Therapy Association, Inc.  
Marla Williams, Ks. Society for Medical Technology  
Terri Rosselot, R.N., Executive Director, Ks. State Nurses Association  
Michael J. Byington, Topeka Resource Center for the Handicapped

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

Chairman called meeting to order when quorum was present, and asked members their wishes in regard to minutes of January 23, January 27, and January 28, 1986. Rep. Foster made a motion these minutes all be approved as written, seconded by Rep. Cribbs, motion carried.

Chairman then gave the same admonishment to conferees and committee members in regard to Hearings on HB 2663 as at yesterdays meeting. Chair will not permit any conversation other than that speaking to HB 2663. He asked conferees to not go into their Association's history, and wishes of their particular groups. He thanked all present for their cooperation.

Chair stated there will be hearings held on the bills in regard to Occupational Therapy and Respiratory Therapy, after, and only after HB 2663 has had action taken and is through the House. He will ask the Speaker's office that as soon as they receive HB 2663, they place it on the calendar of the Hosue.

Chair then referred to the change in designation of CRNA to RNA in SB 179 at meeting yesterday. This will make language in the Statutes uniform. He then said he would entertain a motion from committee to proceed with this in order that the Revisor's office can be working on said changes. Rep. Williams so moved, seconded by Rep. Runnels, motion carried.

Chair invited Mr. Furse to brief committee on Section in SB 179 in regard to Dentists. Mr. Furse referred to the question at hand was in regard to the exemption of licensed dentists and he suggested that committee might wish also to include "registered nurses who assist dentists in the administration of the anesthesia". He said this exclusion could be written in along with the others and it would take care of the problem. The exclusion language is shown on Page 8, lines 273 through 275 of SB 179. Chairman suggested at this point that a balloon copy showing these changes be prepared and the committee will have it to review early next week, perhaps on Monday February 3rd.

Chairman then entertained a motion to have said changes made. Rep. Friedeman made a motion to make said changes, seconded by Rep. Neufeld, motion carried.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE,  
room 423-S, Statehouse, at 1:30 //a.m./p.m. on January 30, 1986.

Hearings on HB 2663 began:

Tom Bell, Kansas Hospital Association gave hand-out to members, (see Attachment No 2). He stated their Association has reviewed HB 2663 in great detail and can support it without any modifications, saying it clearly defines a process which has been difficult to apply consistently, and he gave compliments to the Interim Study Committee on their hard work towards this effort.

He stated they feel that Secy Sabol's proposed amendments are good, and then he urged for favorable passage.

Ms. Penny Geise, introduced herself as a woman interested in women's health care issues. She gave hand-out, (see Attachment No. 3), that would explain her proposed changes HB 2663. She stated she realizes it is frustrating trying to make decisions that will benefit a wide scope of people when it comes to Health Issues, and she commends the Interim Committee for their hard work on this project. She spoke of her concerns in regard to HB 2663. She first explained that she had followed the committee's work on this and feels now that as the bill is in its present state, it perhaps does not follow the original intent of the committee. Her concerns are, i.e., Page 7, Sec. 6, (2), line 247, delete the words, "formal period of". Section 6, (8), Lines 265 thru 267 be deleted, and on page 8, Sec. 7, (1), delete either the entire paragraph of lines 287 thru 292, or insert on line 292, after "welfare", a sentence establishing an intent of prohibiting only clearly defined and specific harmful acts, not of prohibiting entire occupations. She then answered numerous questions from members.

Mr. Randy Peterson, American Physical Therapy Association, Inc., gave hand-out to members, see (Attachment No. 4.) He spoke to some issues they feel are not resolved in HB 2663, and offered solutions and rationale. They have, he said, persons who have been regulated by the Board of Healing Arts since 1973, but are still without a workable definition of certification. He feels the bill does nothing more than to add other statutory regulation as the least form of credentialing, licensure as the strongest form of regulation with registration in the middle. Terms, licensure and registration, are still utilized interchangeably throughout legislative passages to the same health care profession and there is no consistency to their application and this continues to create confusion among legislators and health care professionals.

They would suggest:-- to credential all appropriate (future and existing) health care bodies at the level of licensure and eliminate other categories. Retain the definition of certification for those who need a lesser form of nongovernmental regulation. He then answered numerous questions from members, i.e., they feel if physical therapy is applied to a person, it should only be applied by a Physical Therapist, and not applied by someone from another discipline and saying it is physical therapy.

Marlo Williams, Ks. Society for Medical Technology, gave hand-out to members, see (Attachment No.5.) She stated their group supports the continuation of a Credentialing program in Kansas and recognize the need for modifications of the existing act. She then spoke to their support and concerns in HB 2663. Sec. 1 (b), page 1, they feel a definition of certification be added to credentialing act. Sec.3, (a), Page 2, lines 80 thru 82, language be changed to read, "Three members of the technical committee shall be health care personnel currently credentialed under the laws of this state or certified according to the definition as stated in this act. Sec.3. (d), page 4, they object to language in lines 122 thru 124, and recommend lines 124 thru 129 and other lines throughout the bill which contain the same wording be deleted from the bill. Sec. 3, (e) page 4, throughout the bill the word "all" should be deleted when used in "all the criteria". Sec.6, (3), page 7, to strike criteria 3 from Sec.6., in Sec.6 (5), Page 7, that criteria 5 be struck from Sec.6., and Sec.6, (9), Page 8, they do support and applaud the requirements that nationally recognize standards of education and training exist for the practice of the occupation or profession and are identifiable. He thanked members, then answered numerous questions.

Chair asked if they agreed or disagreed with the "definition" of certification. She answered, some would and some would not support it as presently written.

The different disciplines certified by State or Nationally as far as Medical Technicians and Medical Technologists go, there is a whole alphabet. There was discussion on her proposal in regard to clear and convincing language, and she answered there is fear of reprisals from employers. They are also concerned that specifics are not currently spoken to yet by Rules and Regs., and when this is completed, they will feel more comfortable with this problem.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE,  
room 423-S, Statehouse, at 1:30 a/m/p.m. on January 30, 1986

Hearings continued on HB 2663:

Terri Rosselot, Ks. Nurses Association, (see Attachment No. 6) for printed testimony. She recommended some technical changes in HB 2663, i.e., Page 7, Sec. 6, sub. (2), delete the words, "an additional"; Sec. 6, sub (3), place the word "noncredentialed" before the word "persons"; Sec. 5 & 6, lines 258 through 261, adding the word "minimal" when describing the effect on increasing the cost of health care to the public. Further, throughout the bill, reference to recommendations by the groups for the "level or levels" of credentialing would be more definitive if that wording was changed to "level" or "levels", but not both. She then answered numerous questions by committee. Their Association also supports Secy. Sabol's views on Page 7 of HB 2663, however, there are still some concerns by their Association with the definition of certification.

Michael Byington, Topeka Resource Center for the handicapped gave a hand-out to members, see (Attachment No. 7.), and he spoke in support of HB 2663, but had recommended changes, i.e., a New Section 2. be added starting on line 61, thus re-numbering sections accordingly. New Section language "The above definitions are in no way intended to restrict the use of the word, "Registration" in situations where that word is used by a non-governmental agency or association or the federal government in granting recognition to an individual who has met certain predetermined qualifications specified by the governmental agency or association or the federal government". Further, all in line 249 the words, "above and beyond those assurances provided by any available and applicable certification". Remove "minimal" from line 267 and replace with the words, "virtually nonexistent". He then elaborated on these suggestions, and answered questions from members. Then encouraged committee to adopt these proposed amendments.

Chairman Littlejohn stated there would be printed testimony forthcoming from Mr. John Smith of Wichita in regard to HB 2663, and Mr. Smith asked that it also be considered. Chair asked if anyone else present wished to testify on HB 2663. No one spoke.

Hearings closed on HB 2663.

Chairman adjourned meeting 2:50 p.m., next scheduled meeting, Monday February 3rd.

GUEST REGISTER

DATE 1-30-86

HOUSE

PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE

date - 1-30-86

NAME	ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS
Joni Brunde	Washburn nursing	Topeka
Marla Williams	KS SOCIETY FOR MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY	3624 SE 23 <sup>rd</sup> Terr Topeka 66605
Brenda Clark	KOTA	KCKS, 2400 W. 38 <sup>th</sup> 66103
Denise Fine	Kansas Occupational Therapy Assn.	Kansas City
Martha Sparks	Ks. Occupational Therapy Assn.	10818 W. 102 <sup>nd</sup> Overland Park, Ks. 66214
Brenda Rowley Gray OTR	Kansas Occupational Therapy Assn.	10714 W. 115 <sup>th</sup> St. Overland Park, Ks 66210-3004
Elizabeth C. Taylor	Ks Occupational Therapy Assn	Topeka
Badara Sahal	C D H E	Topeka
Meredith Miller OTR	Occup. Therapy	Topeka
Joni Merrifield	Kansas Occupational Therapy Assn	9557 Granada Overland Park, Ks 66207
Waverly Dodgson	Kansas O.T. Ass.	20806 W 52 <sup>nd</sup> St Shawnee, Ka 66218
Marilyn Bracht	Kansans for Improvement of Homes	Lawrence
Peteey Cest	KIN H	"
Melissa Hunkerford	Ks Hosp Assn	TOPEKA
Clara L. Dubbs	Ks. Occupational Therapy Assoc.	Ransom, Ks.
Mark Hutchinson	KS Medical Society	Topeka
Welen Stephens	Ks. Assn. of Counseling & Development.	Topeka.
Ann Moriarty	Natl. Org. for Women	"
Brida Kelp	Kansas Speech and Hearing Assn	Topeka
Mary Zuhl	Kansas State Student Speech & Hearing Assn.	Wamego
Anne Harney	Ks. Midwives' Association	Topeka
Jacque Oakes	Ks. Assn. Counseling & Development	Topeka
Penny Geis		1831 E. 18 <sup>th</sup> Salina, KS 67401

Attachment  
1  
1/30/86  
Hs. PHW

GUEST REGISTER

DATE 1-30-86

HOUSE

PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE

NAME	ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS
Valerie Smith OTR	KOTA	Topeka
Annelise Crumley, OTR	KOTA	Topeka
Joy Anderson, OTR	KOTA	Kansas City
Diane Reese Currie, OTR	KOTA	Leawood, Ks
Judab Nokes	KOTA	Overland Park, Ks.
Mary Anne Musowill, OTR	KOTA	Kansas City, KS
Paula Hughes OTR	KOTA	Ottawa, Ks.
Betty Bulkeley, MA, OTR	KOTA	Topeka
Jamie K. Steenson, OTR	KOTA - OTA Prog. Bccc	Great Bend, Ks.
Barbara Ryan	OTA student Bccc	" " "
Donna Hudson	OTA student - Bccc	Great Bend, Ks.
John Clark	OTA STUDENT BCCC	Great Bend, Ks.
Gloria Custer	OTA Student Bccc	Great Bend, Ks.
Lynn Beluzon	KOTA	Topeka
Chris Long	KAPTA	Topeka
Jim Schalamsky	SRS / A.D.S	Topeka
Frances Kastner	Ks Assoc of Physical Therapy	Topeka
Joanne Hill	Ks Physical Therapy Assoc	Topeka
Randy Peterson	KAPTA	Fort Junction City
Mark Ward	Washburn	Topeka
Tom Rosselot	KSNA	Topeka

Attn: ?  
1-30-86

KANSAS HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION  
TESTIMONY TO  
THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE  
CONCERNING HOUSE BILL 2663  
January 29, 1986

Presented by Thomas L. Bell

I appreciate the opportunity to appear before you in support of House Bill 2663, Credentialing of Health Care Personnel.

We have reviewed the bill in great detail and can support it without any modifications. The bill, as it is written, more clearly defines a process which, heretofore, has been difficult to apply consistently and we would like to commend the Interim Study Committee on their work.

We agree with the reaffirmation of the importance of the credentialing process and the responsibility of the health occupations to show why further regulatory requirements would be in the public's best interest.

We'd be happy to respond to any questions you might have.  
Thank you.

Attn. #2  
1-30-86  
Hs. PHW

Attn #3  
1-30-86

HEALTH CARE PROVIDER CREDENTIALING

SUGGESTED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL #2663

Section 6 (2):

DELETE: Line 0247 "formal period of"

Section 6 (8):

DELETE: Lines 0265 thru 0267

Section 7 (1):

EITHER DELETE ENTIRE PARAGRAPH: Lines 0287 thru 0292

OR

INSERT ON LINE 0292, after "...welfare.":

a sentence establishing an intent of prohibiting only clearly defined and specific harmful acts, not of prohibiting entire occupations.

Attn #3  
1-30-86  
Hs. PHW

Pennington Geis  
1831 E. Iron  
Salina, KS 67401  
913-823-6017 - H  
913-823-5091 - W

*Attn. #4*

1-30-86 86

KANSAS CHAPTER  
AMERICAN PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSOCIATION, INC.

Randy Peterson, RPT  
Geary County Community Hospital  
Junction City, Kansas 66441  
913-238-4131

01-30-86

Mr Chairman and members of the Public Health and Welfare Committee:

My name is Randy Peterson and I am speaking on behalf of the Kansas Physical Therapy Association. My purpose today is to address some concerns that our Association has in regards to credentialing and make a recommendation to your committee about HB 2663.

Our Association has been following closely the activities of credentialing since 1983. We have noted problems with the process and have voiced those concerns to the interim study committee that investigated proposal #49 this past summer. Looking at the piece of legislation that was a result of their study, HB 2663 does a good job of addressing most of those problems. I would like to point out some issues that I feel were not resolved in the bill and offer a solution with accompanying rationale.

Issues:

- 1) Our profession still has Certified Physical Therapist Assistants who have been regulated by the Board of Healing Arts since 1973 and who are still without a workable definition of certification. Certification in this act allows nongovernmental agencies or associations or the federal government to grant recognition--the Board of Healing Arts does not fall into any of those categories.
- 2) Confusion will continue to exist among technical committee members about the titles of registration and licensure. The bill does nothing more than to add "other statutory regulation" as the least form of credentialing, licensure as the strongest form of regulation with

*Attn. #4*  
*1-30-86*  
*Hs. PHW*



registration in the middle. The technical committee had problems enough trying to differentiate between registration and licensure without definitive criteria to assist in their selection process. Now we are adding a third choice of statutory regulation, not counting the new definition of certification which would be a fourth choice or doing nothing as number five. It has become for the Technical Committee a more complicated than less complex process.

- 3) The terms licensure and registration are still utilized interchangeably throughout legislative passages to the same health care profession. There remains no consistency to their application and this creates confusion among legislators and health care professionals.
- 4) Our ultimate goal as health care professionals is quality patient care. Why should we allow the patient to be confused or to wonder who is what and why when credentialing's sole purpose is to regulate an occupation which may be harmful to the public. Why provide a four level hierarchy of the least to the most potentially harmful professions and expect the public to know what kind of care they are receiving by doing so.

Solution: Credential all appropriate (future and existing) health care bodies at the level of licensure and eliminate other categories. Retain the definition of certification for those who need a lesser form of nongovernmental regulation.

Rationale: The Kansas Physical Therapy Association can cite countless examples of why a profession should not be registered in this state as we are.

Registration does restrict other professionals who do not meet state requirements from calling themselves Physical Therapists but it does not keep other professionals from calling or advertising what they do as Physical Therapy.

Thus, untrained professionals may deliver therapeutic exercise that is contraindicated for the present condition or administer harmful modalities like ultra-

sound and diathermy, call it Physical Therapy and if they would be working for someone with an authorized billing number, be reimbursed for their services. That is not quality patient care and that is not the professional practice of Physical Therapy. Legislators should not allow the same to occur to other legitimate health care professions who may be thrown into this registration category.

Please reflect on how you would like to be treated by someone who had no academic education to administer what they were calling Physical Therapy to you? How many of you would have the insight to ask about their credentials or would you assume that the State of Kansas is assuring that we have educated and competent professionals doing those assigned tasks in health care facilities across the State. It takes a radiologic technologist two years to produce a quality x-ray film and a physical therapist four years to provide a quality PT program. We should not allow "untrained others" to do those skills and charge for those services because it becomes unfair not only for the profession involved but also for the consumer and the reimbursing agency.

Please consider amending HB 2663 to make licensure the only form of credentialing and leaving the definition of certification to those who need not be regulated by the State. Existing statutes can be cleaned up, confusion will be eliminated and quality patient care can be given by the professions who were educated to provide those skills in the first place. Licensure costs no more money than registration, it will not decrease the availability of health care personnel providing those services in Kansas but it will protect the consumer. It will also resolve many of the current dilemmas we are seeing among patients, health care groups and technical committees as well as with SHCC, the Secretary of Health & Environment and the Legislature about the significance of titles. Thank you for the opportunity to testify!

I would be happy to answer any questions that you might have.

Attn. # 6  
1-30-

THE KANSAS SOCIETY FOR MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY

TESTIMONY ON H.B. No. 2663\* PRESENTED BY MARLA WILLIAMS  
TO HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE  
JANUARY 30, 1986

\* H.B. No. 2663 relates to the Kansas act on credentialing.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, the Kansas Society for Medical Technology represents clinical laboratory personnel in Kansas.

KSMT supports the continuation of the Kansas Credentialing Program, and we recognize the need for modifications of the existing act. However, I would like to point out certain areas of the bill which we support or oppose.

Section 1 (b), pg 1: KSMT agrees that a definition of certification should be added to the credentialing act.

Section 3 (a), pg 2: We request that lines 0080-82 be changed by addition to read "Three members of the technical committee shall be health care personnel currently credentialed under the laws of this state or certified according to the definition as stated in this act."

Section 3 (d), pg 4: We object to the entire addition to lines 0122-24, and we recommend that lines 0124-29 and other lines throughout the bill which contain this wording be deleted. We are concerned that "clear and convincing evidence" is subjective and difficult to interpret with consistency from year to year. Also "more than hypothetical examples or testimonials" is a requirement that may be unrealistic. Consider that it is difficult, for fear of reprisals or legal action, to solicit actual supportive case histories.

Section 3 (e), pg 4: Throughout the bill are (11) references to "all the criteria" which impose on the technical committee a stringent mandate also subject to interpretation. These statements should all be changed by deleting the word "all".

Section 6 (3), pg 7: KSMT requests that criteria 3 be stricken from Section 6. The intent of the criteria is vague, confusing and subject to interpretation.

Section 6 (5), pg 7: We ask that criteria 5 be removed from Section 6. It places cost increases as a priority over quality of health care.

Section 6 (9), pg 8: Finally, we support and applaud the requirement that "nationally recognized standards of education and training exist for the practice of the occupation or profession and are identifiable."

Thank you for this opportunity to speak to you about this bill. I will be glad to answer any questions.

Attn. #5  
1-30-86  
Hs. PHW

# KSNA

the voice of Nursing in Kansas

Attn. #6  
1-30-86

For Further Information Contact:

Terri Rosselot, R.N.  
Executive Director  
233-8638  
January 30, 1986

TESTIMONY H.B. 2663

Mr. Chairman, members of the Public Health and Welfare Committee, my name is Terri Rosselot and I am a registered nurse and represent the Kansas State Nurses' Association. There are over 22,000 RN's licensed in Kansas, we are the most populated health care group recognized by licensure in Kansas. The KSNA Legislative subcommittee has reviewed H.B. 2663 and would like to commend the Special Committee on Public Health and Welfare and the research staff for sorting out the issues and problems with the current credentialing laws and addressing them in H.B. 2663. Kansas nurses work in a variety of settings with most if not all types of health care personnel that would seek credentialing.

KSNA supports the mechanical refining of H.B. 2663 and in particular the

----"clear and convincing evidence" standard which is easily interpreted for those pursuing credentialing and the members of the technical committee, SHCC and the Secretary;

----specific direction to the three groups involved in the process and their responsibilities for recommendations, hearings and deliberations.

The information recieved and reported by each group will serve both applicants and others, such as nurses in the workplace with them.

----Section 6 changes in criteria reduce ambiguity and increase elements of measureability for those considering application.

Attn #6  
1-30-86  
Hs. PHW

KSNA would like to recommend consideration of the following technical changes in the bill to further clarify criteria and direction for the groups considering applications for credentialing;

Page 7  
0246

Section 6 (2)

delete the words "an additional".

0244 (2) the practice of the occupation or profession requires ~~spe-~~  
0245 ~~cialized skill and training~~ an identifiable body of knowledge or  
0246 proficiency in procedures, or both, acquired through an addi-  
0247 tional, formal period of advanced study and training, and the  
0248 public needs and will benefit by assurances of initial and con-  
0249 tinuing occupational or professional ability;

----delete addi-  
tional

Page 7  
0254

(3) place the word "noncredentialed" before the word "persons".

0250 (3) if the practice of the occupation or profession is per-  
0251 formed, for the most part, under the direction of other health  
0252 care personnel or institutions providing health care services,  
0253 such arrangement is not adequate to protect the public from  
0254 persons performing ~~noncredentialed~~ functions and procedures;  
delete

----add: non-  
credential

Page 7  
0258  
0261

(5) and (6) adding the words "mininal" in describing the effect on increasing the cost of health care to the public, and decreasing the availability of health care personnel providing services provided by such occupation or profession.

Throughout the bill reference to recommendations by the groups for the

"level or levels" of credentialing would be more definitive if that wording was changed to "level" or "levels", but not both.

Thank you for consideration of these matters.



FOR THE HANDICAPPED

MITCH COOPER, L.M.S.W.  
Executive Director

# TOPEKA RESOURCE CENTER FOR THE HANDICAPPED

West Tenth Professional Building  
1119 West Tenth, Suite 2  
Topeka, Kansas 66604-1105

Telephone  
913-233-6323

*Attn # 7  
1-30-86*

January 30, 1986

TO: House Committee on Public Health and Welfare

FROM: Michael J. Byington

SUBJECT: Testimony on HB2663

I come before the Committee concerning this bill principally in the capacity of Outreach Advocate/Case Manager for the Topeka Resource Center for the Handicapped. I also, however, lobby from time to time for the Kansas Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired Inc., and I must state that this organization also has an interest in credentialing legislation. Furthermore, I have a personal interest in HB2663 and related legislation as I practice drama therapy.

I must start by complementing those Committee members who served on the interim study committee which reviewed Proposal #49. HB2663 represents a job well done by that Committee. As a conferee before that Committee, I appreciate that my input clearly had impact, and I thus rise in support of HB2663. I will, however, suggest a few amendments which will make the bill even better than it is currently.

The definitions of the words certification, registration, and licensure are quite appropriate. In one aspect, however, they will result in confusion. Many nongovernmental agencies and associations call their certification or recognition process "Registration." The new definition of certification thus adds fuel to the longstanding confusion as to whether an individual who has completed a certification or recognition process called "registration" by a nongovernmental agency or association, and not by the State of Kansas, may legally use the term, "Registration." To clear this up, I recommend that a new Section 2 be added starting with line 61. The existing HB2663 Section 2 would then become Section 3 and so on. The new section would read:

"The above definitions are in no way intended to restrict the use of the word, "Registration" in situations where that word is used by a nongovernmental agency or association or the federal government in granting recognition to an individual who has met certain predetermined qualifications specified by the nongovernmental agency or association or the federal government."

*Attn # 7  
1-30-86  
Hs. PHW*

It is essential that the State of Kansas not overlap work which is being adequately and effectively done by nongovernmental agencies and associations or the federal government. Such an overlay would not be cost-effective. This intent is inherent within the legislation in its current form, but could be more clearly stated. I thus recommend that the following words be added to the sentence ending on line 249: ". . . above and beyond those assurances provided by any available and applicable certification."

In her testimony of January 29, 1986, Secretary Sabol recommended the addition of the word, "minimal" in a couple of locations. While I have no objection to the addition of this word in the locations designated by the Secretary, I must suggest that the word be removed from line 267 and replaced with the words, "virtually nonexistent."

The word minimal is not defined in the definitions section. It thus is left open to a rather varied and broad potential range of interpretations throughout the credentialing processes. This could result in severe infringements on scopes of practice related to extremely specialized fields, and such infringements could result in the provision of less appropriate or less comprehensive health and human services. I shall provide some examples.

To my knowledge, there are only seven rehabilitation teacher's for the blind practicing in the State of Kansas. Statistically, this is not a significant number; it is minimal, but if the scope of practice of another profession were to infringe upon the rehabilitation teaching for the blind area, the result would be less appropriate and less specialized services. (The rehabilitation teachers for the blind practicing in Kansas are all legally blind individuals specially skilled in providing independent living skills, recreation therapy, and occupational therapy related services to blind and visually impaired individuals.)

To my knowledge, there are only three quadraplegics in Kansas professionally engaged in teaching other orthopedically handicapped individuals how to manage attendant care. This is certainly not a significant number; it is minimal, but if the scope of practice of another profession were to infringe upon the practice area of these three individuals, thus restricting or terminating their practice, the result would be less appropriate and less specialized services. Credentialing must not inadvertently bind the professional peer counselor/trainer in his/her ability to serve other disabled individuals.

To my knowledge, there are only about ten people in the State of Kansas currently practicing drama therapy. Again, this is not a significant number; it is minimal. Nonetheless, the practice of drama therapy is highly specialized. While other scopes of practice might infringe upon the drama therapy area, no other

practitioner can practice drama therapy at a level of competence equaling those specifically trained in this area. The effect of credentialing on the practice must thus be made virtually nonexistent.

Thank you for an opportunity to address the Committee. Again, this is basically a good bill. The amendments here proposed, however, will vastly improve it.