

Approved January 30, 1991  
Date

MINUTES OF THE House COMMITTEE ON Labor and Industry

The meeting was called to order by Representative Anthony Hensley at  
Chairperson

9:08 a.m./p.m. on January 24, 1991 in room 526-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Gomez - Excused                      Representative Douville - Excused  
Representative Cribbs - Excused                      Representative Webb - Excused  
Representative Roper - Excused

Committee staff present:

Jim Wilson, Revisor of Statutes' Office  
Jerry Donaldson, Legislative Research Department  
Barbara Dudney, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

The meeting was called to order at 9:08 a.m. by the chairman, Rep. Anthony Hensley.

Chairman Hensley entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the January 22nd meeting as corrected to show that Rep. Herman Dillon was excused absent from the meeting. Rep. Diane Gjerstad moved, seconded by Rep. Denise Everhart, that the minutes of the January 22nd meeting be approved. Motion carried.

Chairman Hensley explained that the purpose of the meeting was to hear a staff briefing on the provisions of 1990 Substitute House Bill No. 3069, followed with a presentation by George McCullough, chairman of the Medical Fee Schedule Committee established by this bill. The chairman introduced Jim Wilson, Revisor of Statutes.

Mr. Wilson explained the provisions of 1990 Substitute House Bill No. 3069.

Mr. Wilson pointed out that of particular importance in the bill was the establishment of an advisory panel to make recommendations to the director of workers' compensation on creating a medical fee schedule. He said that this advisory panel is made up of eight (8) members, five of which represent the following: Kansas Medical Society, Kansas Association of Osteopathic Medicine, Kansas Hospital Association, Kansas Chiropractic Association, and the Kansas insurance commissioner. The other three (3) members are appointed by the Secretary of the Human Resources from recommendations made by: Kansas Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Kansas AFL-CIO, and vocational rehabilitation vendors.

The chairman introduced Mr. McCullough. Mr. McCullough presented a brief report on the progress the medical fee schedule advisory panel was making on creating a medical fee schedule as per 1990 Substitute House Bill No. 3069. Mr. McCullough stated that the advisory panel has rejected the use of Medicare procedures and allowances in their efforts to determine a medical fee schedule because very few Kansas physicians accept patients based on Medicare procedures and allowances. He further stated that the advisory panel has been faced with several obstacles in attempting to conduct its business: a lawsuit over the seating of the vocational rehabilitation representative on the panel, the refusal of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas to provide the panel a list of medical fee charges it routinely uses, the vast number of CPT (Current Procedure Treatment) and DRG (Diagnosis Related Group) codes used in the medical profession, and the difficulty in reaching agreement on the final draft of a form to be used in a survey of Kansas medical providers to assess the fees charged in the medical treatment of injured workers.

Mr. McCullough answered questions from several members of the committee.

The chairman announced that Mr. McCullough would return to the committee in the future to give members an update on the advisory panel's progress. He also announced the committee agenda for the next week.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

