

Approved 3-19-91
Date

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE

The meeting was called to order by SENATOR ROY M. EHRLICH at
Chairperson

10:00 a.m./~~p.m.~~ on March 7, 1991 in room 526-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present:

Emalene Correll, Legislative Research
Norman Furse, Revisor's Office
Jo Ann Bunten, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Virginia Klepper, Great Bend Town and Country Racquet Club
Martin Casey, Great Bend Town and Country Racquet Club (Owner)
David Christensen, Great Bend Fire Department (EMS)
David Lake, Great Bend Fire Department (BCCC)
Bob McDanel, Kansas Board of Emergency Medical Services
Chip Wheelen, Kansas Medical Society

Chairman Ehrlich called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Hearing and Final Action on:

SB 312 - State employee payroll deductions authorized for wellness programs.

Appearing before the committee and speaking in support of SB 312 was Virginia Klepper, employee of the Great Bend Town and Country Racquet Club. Ms. Klepper stated this bill would give state employees a tool with which to accomplish better health by participation in a voluntary wellness program, financed through payroll deductions. The wishes of the committee were asked, and Senator Hayden moved to recommend the bill favorably for passage. The motion was seconded by Senator Strick. Senator Salisbury expressed her concern regarding the absence of input from state employees at the hearing, and what the fiscal impact of the bill would be. After expressing his concern regarding the fiscal impact of the bill and the need to obtain more information, Senator Strick withdrew his second to the motion. Considerable discussion centered on whether Ms. Klepper had contacted the Employee State Health Care Commission, if wellness programs are operated in other states and cost of financing such programs. Also appearing in support of the bill was the owner of the Great Bend Town and Country Racquet Club, Martin Casey, who stated the program would be voluntary and not cost the state money. He further stated it would be beneficial for the state to have a wellness program because employees would be more productive. Senator Salisbury questioned how the bill would save the participant money that could not be done without legislation. Mr. Casey stated there would be reduced fees for groups if collected by payroll deduction. Senator Burke brought out the fact that NCSL addressed the issue regarding wellness programs in other states. He also called attention to page 2, line 8 (e), of the bill which states, "The director of accounts and reports shall charge and collect a fee for making payroll deductions and payment...", and no cost would be incurred by the state. Senator Burke seconded the motion. Further discussion on the bill followed, division was requested, and the vote was 7 yes, 2 no. The motion carried. Chairman Ehrlich will carry the bill.

Chairman Ehrlich introduced his three pages from Great Bend who served in the Senate and assisted at the committee meeting.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE,
room 526-S, Statehouse, at 10:00 a.m./p~~xx~~ on March 7, 1991.

Hearing and Final Action on:

SB 313 - Authorized activities of an emergency medical technician-defibrillator to include external transthoracic pacing.

David Christensen, Great Bend Fire Department (EMS), appeared before the committee in support of SB 313. Mr. Christensen stated the bill would provide emergency medical technicians - defibrillator (EMT-D) the ability to administer external transthoracic pacing, which is constant generation of an electrical stimulus to regulate the heart beat. David Lake, Great Bend Fire Department also testified the passage of the bill would allow those receiving defibrillator training to save more lives. Committee discussion followed regarding the cost and effectiveness of the equipment and the fact some individuals may desire not to be kept alive, depending on their condition.

Bob McDanel, State Board of Emergency Medical Services, submitted written testimony, appeared before the committee and stated the board neither supports nor opposes SB 313. If the legislature authorizes the activity addressed in the bill, the board would be responsible for creating or approving a training program, provide training for instructors, determine if a practical examination should be given, and provide training for 75 currently certified EMTs-D. (Attachment 1)

Chip Wheelen, Kansas Medical Society, appeared before the committee and stated the Medical Society does not have a formal position on SB 313 at this time, and would give input if the bill is sent to the House Public Health and Welfare Committee. He also stated physicians have said the method does salvage a few lives, while other physicians contend the method never works. Senator Burke made the motion to recommend SB 313 favorably for passage, seconded by Senator Strick. After committee discussion, the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

SENATE
PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

DATE 3-7-91

(PLEASE PRINT)
NAME AND ADDRESS

ORGANIZATION

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KS77A

Bob McDanel

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Virginia L. Kupper

Wellness & Fitness

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ON PUBLICATION FOR KANSAS

DAVID LAKE

Gt. Bend Fire Dept / BCCC

David CHRISTIANSEN

Gt Bend FIRE DEPT / EMS

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State of Kansas

BOARD OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

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Bob McDanel
Administrator

Joan Finney
Governor

DATE: March 7, 1991

TO: Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare

FROM: Bob McDanel 

SUBJECT: Testimony on SB 313

I am Bob McDanel, administrator of the Board of Emergency Medical Services. The board is the state agency charged with the regulation of ambulance services and attendants. As part of that regulation, the board approves training programs for all levels of attendant certification and administers a certification examination for those students who successfully complete a training program.

The Board of Emergency Medical Services neither supports nor opposes SB 313. The bill was introduced after the board developed its legislative package. Since passage of SB 313 would affect the operations of the board, I wanted to address this committee.

Emergency medical technicians-defibrillator (EMT-D) are emergency medical technicians who have taken a minimum of 27 hours of additional training in order to use a manual defibrillator to provide emergency assistance to heart attack victims. SB 313 would increase the scope of the EMT-D by authorizing this level of attendant to provide external transthoracic pacing.

External transthoracic pacing is constant generation of an electrical stimulus to regulate the heart beat. A specialized defibrillator is used to administer the stimulus.

If the legislature authorizes this additional activity, the board will be responsible for creating (or approving) a training program, providing training for instructors, determining if a practical examination will be given, and providing training for 75 currently certified EMTs-D. At this point, I believe these tasks are manageable within existing operations and personnel of the agency.

I would be happy to respond to questions.

RM/st

Senate P H&W
Attachment #1
3-7-91