

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Carlos Mayans at 1:30 p.m. on January 11, 1995 at Holiday Inn City Centre, Topeka.

All members were present.

Committee staff present: None.

Conferees appearing before the committee: See notes below.

Others attending: Public

The committee attended a session of the Conference on the Role of Allied Health Professionals in the Delivery of Primary Care, held by the University of Kansas Medical Center, 914 SE. Madison, Topeka. The subject of the session was "The Potential Impact of the Changing Health Care Scenario on Legislation." Chairperson Mayans' notes on the conference follows.

Healthcare is a tremendously complex issue with many jurisdictional problems. It has, apparently, an unlimited budget that is constantly being overspent by the end user. It also has a "balloon effect" if you try to make corrections in one area (such as in tort reform) you may end up skewing insurance premiums and costs. There are problems with costs associated with health care, insurance premiums, out-of-pocket expenses, and as a percentage of the Gross National Product.

There are also problems associated with access. These problems may present themselves at the price of employment, in the purchasing of insurance, or with the primary care services.

There is also the issue of appropriateness of care relating to the appropriateness of the services. There is the problem of condition-at-hand receiving the proper service. Services must be in relation to outcome. Quality of the services must be considered regardless of cost.

The session ended at 3:15 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 12, 1995.