

Approved: April 7, 2000  
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Garry Boston at 12:20 p.m. on April 5, 2000 in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative Brenda Landwehr, Excused  
Representative Tricia Lightner, Excused  
Representative Peggy Long, Excused  
Representative Jim Morrison, Excused  
Representative Judy Showalter, Excused  
Representative Dale Swenson, Excused  
Representative Dixie Toelkes, Excused  
Representative Johnathan Wells, Excused

Committee staff present: Emalene Correll, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Norman Furse, Revisor of Statute's Office  
June Evans, Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Ron Hein, Mental Health Credentialing Coalition

Others attending: See Attached Sheet

The Chairperson recognized Ron Hein to review **SB 397 - Allowing licensed professional counselors to practice without direction if such counselor does not diagnose and treat.**

Mr. Hein stated there had already been a hearing on **SB 397** which was a non-controversial bill that was basically a clean-up bill of last year's **HB 2213**. Mr. Hein stated his testimony was very brief at the hearing. This has to do with licensed professional counselors. Under existing law that will change on July 1, licensed professional counselors are permitted to be in independent practice. Some of those licensed professional counselors under the law that will go into effect would either be working under the direction of a clinical level professional or have to get further education requirements. The intent of last year's bill was to be only applicable to those people that are diagnosing or treating mental disorders and these people are not diagnosing or treating. This would only be a clean-up and came out of the Mental Health Task Force and was non-controversial.

Staff stated the changeover is in the area of practice. If diagnose and treat have to be under direction.

The Chairperson stated were back on the bill as it was amended and are going to work. The Majority Office said if the bill was passed out of the committee they would run it.

**Representative Geringer moved and Representative Bethell seconded to move SB 397 out as amended. The motion carried.**

The meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

