

Approved: May 5, 2009

Date

MINUTES OF THE SENATE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jim Barnett at 1:00 p.m. on April 30, 2009, in Room 136-N of the Capitol for the purpose of confirming Kenneth L. Daniel, Jr., to the Kansas Health Policy Authority for a three-year term.

All members were present except Senator Colyer and Senator Brungardt who were absent.

Committee staff present:

Nobuko Folmsbee, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Terri Weber, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Jan Lunn, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Kenneth L. Daniel, Jr.

Approximately 5 members of the public attending (no Guest List attached).

Mr. Daniel's application was previously distributed to committee members for review.

Senator Barnett asked Mr. Daniel to provide any comments, etc. Mr. Daniel indicated that he owned and operated a small business in Topeka, Kansas and at the current time, he was retired from its day-to-day management activities. Mr. Daniel indicated he was a co-founder of the Topeka Independent Business Association (TIBA) and actively volunteered as an advocate for small businesses in the community. In addition, he is a registered lobbyist for small businesses.

Questions from committee members included reasons why Mr. Daniels' nomination had been held for an extended period, the possibility of conflict (when functioning in a lobbyist role) relative to KHPA policies and their impact on small business healthcare policies/reform, and pending litigation.

Mr. Daniel indicated the nomination was held due to various process/procedural changes not under his control. He stated that 54% of working Kansans are employed by small businesses, and resolution to healthcare reform must be foundational for these small businesses. Mr. Daniel indicated he did not anticipate potential conflicts and that in all probability he would not continue active lobbying. Mr. Daniel candidly explained the pending litigation to committee members.

Senator Kelsey moved to recommend confirmation of Kenneth L. Daniel, Jr., to the Kansas Health Policy Authority by the full Senate. Senator Mary Pilcher-Cook seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Senator Barnett adjourned the meeting at 1:23pm.