

SESSION OF 2002

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2905

As Amended by House Committee on
Kansas Futures

Brief*

HB 2905, as amended, would create the Kansas Commission on Health. The purpose of the Commission would be to examine and make recommendations on all aspects of health in Kansas. The Commission would make a determination of what should be the appropriate levels and delivery of services throughout the spectrum of healthcare providers with an emphasis on prevention, health promotion, and reduction of health disparities in the Kansas population. The Commission's charge would also include a focus on both mental and physical health, a review of the underserved areas of Kansas, and the delivery of all healthcare, including telemedicine.

Commission Membership

The Commission would be composed of 19 members. Of these, four members would be appointed by the Legislature and 15 would be appointed by the Governor. The bill would require an emphasis and consideration be given of the member's ethnicity, gender, and geographic area. The legislative appointments would include the following:

- one member appointed by the Speaker of the House;
- one member appointed by the House Minority Leader;
- one member appointed by the Senate President; and
- one member appointed by the Senator Minority Leader.

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org/cgi-bin/fulltext/bills.cgi>

The Governor's appointments would include the following:

- one member representing a large self-insured employer;
- one member representing an employer who is insured with a privately purchased group health insurance policy;
- one mental health care provider;
- one health care provider who is not licensed to practice medicine and surgery or a licensed dentist;
- one member who is licensed to practice medicine and surgery;
- one member who is a licensed dentist;
- one member representing the health care commission;
- one member representing small business;
- one member representing a local health department;
- one member representing organized labor;
- one member who is a consumer of health care;
- one member representing a major insurance company;
- one member representing public health academia;
- one member representing K-12 education; and
- one member of the AARP.

The chair and vice-chair would be elected by the Commission and a quorum of the Commission would be nine.

Funding

Funding for the operations of the Commission would come from moneys received from grants and contributions made from foundations, nonprofit organizations, and other entities or persons who have common goals of the Commission.

Meetings

The Commission would meet on call of the chair and would meet in Topeka unless otherwise authorized. The Commission could also hold interactive electronic meetings to expand involvement throughout the state.

Staffing

An Executive Secretary would act as staff to the Commission and its subcommittees and would serve as a liaison with state agencies and the Office of the Governor. Additional staff support would be provided by Legislative Administrative Services, the office of the Revisor of Statutes, and the Kansas Legislative Research Department.

Reporting

An annual report including activities and recommendations made by the Commission would be prepared for the information of the Governor and Legislature on the first Tuesday of each year. This report would be made available electronically and in paper format upon request.

Sunset

Under the bill, the Commission would sunset on June 30, 2007.

Background

The House Committee on Kansas Futures held hearings on the bill, at which time Representative Bob Bethell and representatives of the Kansas Medical Society, the Department of Health and Environment, the Kansas Health Institute, Kansas Public Health Association, Inc., Kansas State Nurse's Association, the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services, and the AARP in Kansas offered testimony on the bill.

The House Committee made several amendments to the bill involving, among other things, the membership of the Commission and the Commission's reporting requirements.

The Division of the Budget reports that passage of HB 2905 would have no fiscal impact on the state.