

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Brenda Landwehr at 1:30 P.M. on January 24, 2007 in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Clark Shultz- excused
Jeff Colyer- excused
Peggy Mast- excused
Tom Holland- excused

Committee staff present:

Renae Jefferies, Revisor's Office
Melissa Calderwood, Legislative Research
Mary Galligan, Legislative Research
Patti Magathan, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Dr. Lou Saadi, Kansas Department of Health and Environment

Others Attending:

See Attached List.

Chair Landwehr opened the floor for bill introductions.

Ron Seeber, Mental Health Credentialing Association, requested a bill which adds three groups to those qualified to perform home studies for adoption processing. Motion made by Representative Morrison and seconded by Representative Neighbor. Motion carried.

Chair Landwehr then invited **Dr. Lou Saadi**, Kansas Department of Health and Environment (K.D.H.E.) to provide an overview of the accessibility of Kansas health statistics. Dr. Saadi informed the committee that she is the Director of the Office of Health Assessment, Center for Health and Environmental Statistics, Division of Health, K.D.H.E. Dr. Saadi stated that K.D.H.E. has historically published annual summaries of vital statistics. To meet the public's need for information in a more timely fashion they have developed two tools for getting data and information to their clients. (**Attachment 1**)

First is the Kansas Health Statistics Report which is disseminated via e-mail and is also available on the agency's web site.

Second is a queryable data tool, Kansas Information for Communities (K.I.C.), which is internet based. This tool delivers data specifically tailored to meet user needs. Data placed on K.I.C. comes from some of the most popular data sets maintained by the agency, such as birth, death, cancer, and hospital discharge data. K.I.C. is widely used by public health agencies, researchers, students, program managers and the media and gets about 30,000 hits to the website per month.

Dr. Saadi added that K.I.C. is sensitive to privacy issues and protects confidentiality while assuring data usefulness.

Following a brief question and answer session, Chair Landwehr complimented Dr. Saadi on the product and how far they have come since she (the Chair) has been involved with the Health and Human Services Committee.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:20 P.M. Next meeting is January 25, 2007 at 1:30 P.M.