

Wm. Jeff Kahrs, Interim-Acting Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

January 19, 2012

Testimony of:

Wm. Jeff Kahrs, Interim-Acting Secretary
Pedro Moreno, Deputy Secretary
Gary Haulmark, Legislative Director
Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services
Topeka, Kansas

presented to:

The Hon. Marc Rhoads and Honorable Members
of the Kansas House Appropriations Committee:

SRS response to Legislative Post Audit report on KNI

Chairman Rhoads, Vice-Chair Kelley, Ranking Member Feuerborn and Honored Members:

Mister Chairman, thank you for the opportunity to testify before you today regarding the Kansas Neurological Institute, KNI.

SRS will not make specific comments on the Legislative Post Audit report until after meeting with all the stakeholders involved in the operation of KNI.

The stakeholder group will meet on Wednesday, February 1, 2012 from 9 a.m. through 4 p.m.
Stakeholders who have agreed to participate are:

1. Mark Athon, KNI Parent/Guardian Group
2. Gary Umscheid, KNI Parent/Guardian Group
3. Ramona Macek, Shawnee County Community Developmental Disability Organization (CDDO)
4. Linda Lock, Brown/Doniphan County CDDO
5. Lisa Jackson, Sheltered Living Inc. (Community Service Provider)
6. Linda Misasi, Creative Community Living (Community Service Provider)
7. Tobias Schlingensiepen, First Congregational Church, Topeka (Faith Based Community)
8. Pedro Irigonegaray, Civil Rights Attorney, Topeka (Community Member)
9. Dr. Raymond Lumb, Stormont Vail Hospital (Medical Representative)
10. Jeri James, United Seating (Medical/Assistive Technology Representative)
11. Steve Leary, SRS Disability and Behavioral Health Services (DBHS), Community Supports and Services
12. Greg Wintle, SRS DBHS Community Supports and Services
13. Elizabeth Phelps, SRS DBHS

14. Jerry Rea, Parsons State Hospital
15. Secretary Shawn Sullivan, Kansas Department on Aging
16. Brent Widick, Kansas Neurological Institute
17. Barney Hubert, Kansas Neurological Institute

SRS Legislative Director Gary Haulmark will also be present at the meeting. Mr. Haulmark is arranging a meeting of the Shawnee County legislative delegation following the stakeholders meeting in February in which SRS can share recommendations made by the stakeholder group.

SRS will report back to the Legislature by the end of February, at the latest, with any consensus recommendations from the stakeholders.

Thank you.

Wm. Jeff Kahrs
SRS Interim-Acting Secretary