

## MINUTES OF THE HOUSE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Brenda Landwehr at 1:30 PM on Monday, February 6, 2012 in Room 784 of the Docking State Office Building.

All members were present except:

Representative Donohoe - Excused

Committee staff present:

Norm Furse, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
Martha Dorsey, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Jay Hall, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Joseph Leiker, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Debbie Bartuccio, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

John Federico, Federico Consulting ([Attachment 1](#))  
Dan Tripp, Health Care Compact Alliance ([Attachment 2](#))  
Chuck Vogt, Part Owner/Sales Manager, All Star Awards and Ad Specialties  
([Attachment 3](#))  
David Wilson, Volunteer and Past President for AARP Kansas ([Attachments 4, 5, 6](#))  
Paul Degener, Concerned Citizen, Topeka, Kansas ([Attachment 7](#))

Others in attendance:

See attached list.

Chairperson Landwehr asked if there were any bill introductions.

*Representative Mast made a motion to introduce a bill relating to placing speech-language pathologists and audiologists under the state board of healing arts. The motion was seconded by Representative Bollier. The motion carried.*

### **HB 2520—Interstate health care compact**

Chairperson Landwehr opened the hearing on the bill.

John Federico provided testimony in support of the bill. He stated the bill is about governance reform, not policy reform. The legislature is being asked to join other states, and petition Congress to consent to an interstate health care compact that would allow member states the opportunity to bring health care decisions “closer to home” by allowing state legislatures to set health care policy that is best suited to their individual states as it relates to non-military health care goods and services. ([Attachment 1](#))

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## CONTINUATION SHEET

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Dan Tripp provided testimony in support of the bill. He reviewed 1) what is the health care compact, 2) why a health care compact, 3) how does the health care compact work, and 4) the status of the health care compact at the state level. He indicated four states are currently members of the compact: Georgia, Missouri, Oklahoma and Texas. Fourteen additional states are debating it in 2012. (Attachment 2)

Chuck Vogt, Jr. provided testimony in support of the bill. Small business owners are trapped in a dysfunctional marketplace that suffers from a lack of competition, limited and expensive choices, and no flexibility in plan design. The Health Care Compact does not mandate how Kansas will handle health care within our boundaries. It leaves us to decide how to create a system that fits our needs, providing greater accountability and more flexibility in delivering citizens and small businesses a more efficient and effective system. He stated Kansas can manage health care better than the federal government. The Health Care Compact gives the Kansas legislature the ability to do that. (Attachment 3)

David Wilson provided testimony in opposition to the bill. He stated the bill would give the state all of the federal health care funding for Medicare, Medicaid, and the federal Children's Health Insurance Program and other health care programs and allow the state to determine how those funds would be spent and how the programs would operate. He stated it would be a serious mistake to turn this program over to the state. This bill will jeopardize security, choice and benefits for seniors and people with disabilities in Kansas who rely on the Medicare program for their health coverage. The bill carries with it impacts and consequences for all Kansans who rely on federal laws to protect their health care. (Attachment 4) His testimony also included a copy of a letter from Arizona Governor Janice Brewer concerning her veto of an Arizona bill concerning a health care compact and its funding as well as a copy of the bill (Attachment 5). A final document provided was a copy of a letter from Montana Governor Brian Schweitzer in which he vetoed a bill which authorized an interstate health care compact; and directing the governor to join the compact. (Attachment 6)

Paul Degener provided testimony in opposition to the bill. He stated he failed to understand why consideration would be given to creating or joining another organization when there is the National Conference of State Legislators. The state legislators have in the past and can presently communicate with the other states without having to form another alliance. (Attachment 7)

At the conclusion of a question and answer session, Chairperson Landwehr closed the hearing on the bill.

Representative Trimmer made a motion to introduce a law relating to licensure of maternity centers and child care facilities. The motion was seconded by Representative Ward. The motion carried.

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The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 7, 2012.

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