

MINUTES OF THE SENATE FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND INSURANCE COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ruth Teichman at 9:30 A.M. on March 2, 2006 in Room 234-N of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Melissa Calderwood, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Terri Weber, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Ken Wilke, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Bev Beam, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Jarrold Forbes, Kansas Insurance Dept.

Others attending:

See attached list.

The Chair called the meeting to order. She called on Jarrod Forbes, Kansas Insurance Department, to testify on **(HB 2691) an act concerning insurance; pertaining to HIPAA compliance.**

Mr. Forbes said this is a bill the federal government requires us to pass each year. **(HB 2691)** amends the Kansas Mental Health Parity Law by extending the sunset date for one more year to December 31, 2006. The controlling federal legislation was recently passed and signed into law, he said. Kansas, along with every other state, is required by this legislation to change its sunset date to December 31, 2006. Failure to do so would surrender regulatory control in this area to the federal government, he said. **(Attachment 1)**

The Chair asked for questions. The Chair said she was going to close the hearing on **(HB 2691)** and hold the bill for a few days.

The Chair called for final action on **(SB 539) - an act concerning casualty insurance companies; relating to certain requirements regarding filing rates, forms and premiums.** The Chair asked for questions concerning testimony that was heard.

The Chair said the committee asked to have the bill presented in a more easy to follow form.

The Chair asked Brad Smoot to walk through the balloons. **(Attachment 2)**

Bob Hayes testified regarding **(SB 539)**. He said there were some very technical changes but they do accomplish the task and he is comfortable with the bill.

Senator Barnett recommended the balloon as a substitute for (SB 539). Senator Brownlee seconded. Motion passed.

Senator Barnett moved the bill out. Senator Brownlee seconded. Motion passed to move the bill out favorably.

The Chair asked Ken Wilke to explain his substitute balloon to **(SB 322)**. **(Attachment 3)**

The Chair asked Mr. Wilke to draft a substitute bill for **(SB 322)** and said final action would be taken on Tuesday, March 7.

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m. The next meeting of this Committee is scheduled for March 7, 2006.