

MINUTES OF THE SENATE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dwayne Umbarger at 10:30 A.M. on January 17, 2006, in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Jill Wolters, Revisor of Statutes Office
Michael Corrigan, Revisor of Statutes Office
Alan Conroy, Director, Kansas Legislative Research Department
J. G. Scott, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Reagan Cussimano, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Audrey Dunkel, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Susan Kannarr, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Judy Bromich, Chief of Staff
Mary Shaw, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Candy Shively, Deputy Secretary, Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services

Others attending:

See attached list.

Bill Introduction

Senator Barone moved, with a second by Senator Emler, to conceptually introduce the Governor's budget bills. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Chairman Umbarger referred the following bill to the KPERS Issues Subcommittee:

SB 340--Cap on employer retirement contributions for security officers employed by the department of corrections

Presentation on the Status of Foster Care:

The Chairman welcomed Candy Shively, Deputy Secretary, Integrated Service Delivery, Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services (SRS), who presented an update on the status of Foster Care (Attachment 1). She also distributed the following information:

- Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services' Children and Family Services Presents Child Welfare in Kansas: A Family Centered, Community Based System of Care, by Sandra Hazlett, Director of Children and Family Services, August 11, 2005 (Attachment 2)
- Child Welfare Community Based Service, Provider Performance at a Glance, July - September, 2005 Data and Executive Summary for July to September, 2005, Children and Family Services Data and Reports (Attachment 3)
- Community Stakeholder Meetings, Fall 2005, Leading Insights (Attachment 4)
- Child Welfare Issues, Federal and State Legislation (Attachment 5)

Ms. Shively explained that on July 1, 2005, the transition to new Child Welfare Community Based Service (CWCBS) Provider contracts was completed culminating a process that was begun in early 2003. Based on the feedback received she provided information in her written testimony some significant changes that were implemented. Ms. Shively noted that the restructuring of SRS and the CWCBS contracts has not been without

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challenges highlighting that staff turnover and difficulty filling empty position reflects the stress for staff in both the public and private sector.

Ms. Shively mentioned that SRS is aware of the need to support adoptive placements for children who are not able to return to parents, be placed with relatives or kin and at risk of aging out of foster care. She also reviewed the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services' Children and Family Services Presents Child Welfare in Kansas: A Family Centered, Community Based System of Care presentation with the Committee (attachment 2). Questions and discussion followed. In closing, it was noted that Kansas will be recognized on January 26, 2006, by the Child Welfare League of America as a national leader for the quality of its child welfare program and service delivery. The Chairman thanked Ms. Shively for appearing before the Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m. The next meeting was scheduled for January 18, 2006.