

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE SOCIAL SERVICES BUDGET COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bob Bethell at 3:30 P.M. on March 12, 2007 in Room 514-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Amy Deckard, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Amy VanHouse, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Kay Dick, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Representative Lana Gordon
Bryce Miller, Depression & Bipolar Support Alliance
Jim Beckwith, North East Kansas Area on Aging
Amy Campbell, Kansas Mental Health Coalition
Kathy Greenlee, Secretary, Kansas Department on Aging
Jim Snyder, Silver-Haired Legislature

Others attending:

See attached list.

Hearing opened on HB 2236 - Geriatric mental health act.

Chairman Bethell asked Amy Deckard, Kansas Legislative Research to give the Committee an overview on **HB 2236**. She explained that this bill would establish grants to be administered by the Department on Aging for providers of mental health services for the elderly.

Representative Lana Gordon testified in support of **HB 2236** stating that it is important to make information available concerning the many mental issues facing senior citizens in order to create greater understanding of the situation which may arise as we age. This can be accomplished through support of programs to help families, care givers, etc. in assisting, not only them but also the older citizens they may serve. (Attachment 1)

The Chair reconized Bryce Miller, Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance, who gave testimony as a proponent for **HB 2236**. He advised the committee that with the first wave of older baby boomers turing 60 years in 2007, the needs are becoming critical in the years ahead. Mr. Miller went to say, "Therefore we older adult advocates are recommending an interim study for **HB 2236**." (Attachment 2)

Amy Campbell, Kansas Mental Health Coalition, testified in support of HB 2236 which would make grant funds available for the expansion of mental health services targeted to the needs of older Kansans. (Attachment 3)

Jim Beckwith, North East Kansas Area on Aging provided testimony as a proponent for **HB 2236**. He did have some questions and concerns regarding the language in the bill. (Attachment 4)

The Chair welcomed Secretary Kathy Greenlee, Kansas Department on Aging, who appear as a neutral conferee. (Attachment 5)

Chairman Bethell alerted the Committee to supportive Written Only testimony, on **HB 2236**, from Ernie Kutzley, AARP. (Attachment6), and Mike Hammond, Association of Community Mental Health. (Attachment 7)

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Social Services Budget Committee at 3:30 P.M. on March 12, 2007 in Room 514-S of the Capitol.

The Chairman closed the hearing on HB 2236.

Hearing on HB 2395 - Department on aging, health care for seniors fund, senior services fund, disposition of additional tobacco litigation settlement proceeds.

The Chair recognized Jim Snyder, Kansas Silver Haired Legislature, who testified in support of HB 2395. (Attachment 8)

Hearing was closed on HB 2395.

The Chairman opened discussion on HB 2237 - Adult care home administrators licensure by reciprocity

Representative Kelsey made a motion to pass out favorably, HB 2237. Representative George seconded the motion. Following discussion and clarification HB 2237 passed favorably.

Meeting was adjourned.