

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

MADAM PRESIDENT:

The Committee on **Public Health and Welfare** recommends **HB 2509**, as amended by House Committee, be amended on page 17, following line 1, by inserting:

"New Sec. 9. (a) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), whenever a municipality provides for the payment of premiums for any health benefit plan for its emergency personnel, it shall pay premiums for the continuation of coverage under COBRA for the surviving spouse and eligible dependent children under the age of 26 years of any emergency personnel who dies in the line of duty. Premiums for continuation of coverage under COBRA shall be paid for 18 months.

(2) A municipality may not be required to pay the premiums described in paragraph (1) for a surviving spouse:

(A) On or after the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> calendar month after the date of death of the deceased emergency personnel;

(B) upon the remarriage of the deceased emergency personnel's surviving spouse; or

(C) upon the deceased emergency personnel's surviving spouse reaching the age of 65.

(b) For the purposes of this section:

(1) "Emergency personnel" means an attendant as such term is defined in K.S.A. 65-6112, and amendments thereto.

(2) "Health benefit plan" shall have the meaning ascribed to it in K.S.A. 40-4602, and amendments thereto.

(3) "Municipality" means a city or county. ";

And by renumbering sections accordingly; and the bill be passed as amended.

\_\_\_\_\_Chairperson