

## **MEWA Exemption; SB 51**

**SB 51** amends a provision in the Insurance Code to add a trade organization of banks to the list of associations providing health insurance coverage exempted from the jurisdiction of the Kansas Insurance Commissioner. Enactment of the bill will allow this designated banking organization the ability to self-insure, offering health coverage through a self-funded group plan.

The 1991 Legislature exempted five multiple welfare arrangement (MEWA) association groups from the jurisdiction of the Insurance Commissioner. Those five associations exempted in the statute amended by the bill are: a professional association of architects (American Institute of Architects—Kansas), a professional association of dentists (Kansas Dental Association), a trade association of banks (Community Bankers Association of Kansas), a trade association of truckers (National Association of Independent Truckers), and an association of physicians practicing in the Kansas City metropolitan area that provides certain health benefits to the members of the association.