

MINUTES OF THE SENATE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Senator Susan Wagle at 1:30 p.m. on February 8, 2001 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present: Ms. Emalene Correll, Legislative Research Department
Ms. Renae Jefferies, Revisor of Statutes
Ms. Lisa Montgomery, Revisor of Statutes
Ms. Rebecca Zapick, Intern for Senator Barnett
Ms. Margaret Cianciarulo, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Dr. Claudia Dempsey, Director of Special Ed USD 253
Ms. Nancy Davenport, Speech Therapist
Ms. Teresa Walters, Executive Director
Emporians for Drug Awareness
Mr. Steve Ternes, Principal, Emporia Middle School
Ms. Mary Rhodes, Adoptive Parent
Ms. Chris Collins, Director of Government Affairs
Kansas Medical Society
Ms. Linda Kenney, Director, Bureau for Children, Youth
& Families, KDHE
Mr. Chip Wheelen, Executive Director
Kansas Association of Osteopathic Medicine
Ms. Laura Howrd, Assistant Secretary of Health Care Policy

Others attending: See Attached Guest List

After Chairperson Susan Wagle announced that the day was Nurses Day at the Legislature, the Chair and the Committee members acknowledged and welcomed the presence of the nurses attending the Senate Public Health and Welfare meeting.

Hearing on SB 118 - pilot program for fetal alcohol syndrome

Chairperson Wagle then introduced Dr. Claudia Dempsey, Director of Special Ed USD 253, who would begin proponent testimony for the hearing on **SB 118**. Dr. Dempsey stated that she has received training in the educational identification of FAS characteristics and worked with students in other states with FAS. A written copy of her testimony is (Attachment 1) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes by reference.

The next proponent was Ms. Nancy Davenport, Speech Therapist, Flint Hills Special Education Cooperative and Newman Memorial County Hospital in Emporia. Ms. Davenport gave an overview on some of the children she is working with who have been diagnosed with FAS. A copy of her testimony is (Attachment #2) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes by reference.

Ms. Teresa Walters, Executive Director, Emporians for Drug Awareness, presented a folder with facts, misconceptions and letters of support. A written copy of her testimony and handouts (folder) are (Attachment #3) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes by reference.

Mr. Steve Ternes, Principal, Emporia Middle School, was next to testify in support of the bill. Mr. Ternes gave a brief overview of the enrollment at Emporia Middle School indicating the number of support staff is nearly as large as the regular classroom teachers. A written copy of his testimony is (Attachment #4) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes by reference.

In support of the bill, Ms. Mary Rhodes, a parent, was next to be recognized by the Chairperson. Ms. Rhodes gave her personal experience with their adoptive son in regards to fetal alcohol syndrome. A copy of her testimony is (Attachment #5) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes by reference.

Ms. Chris Collins, Director of Government Affairs, Kansas Medical Society was the next proponent conferee to come before the Committee. Ms. Collins testified that the bill requests a modest appropriation that will be matched by local funds or services. A copy of her testimony is (Attachment #6) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes by reference.

The next proponent conferee to come before the Committee was Ms. Linda Kenney, Director, Bureau for Children, Youth and Families, KDHE, bringing to light the Infant Toddler Program. A copy of her testimony is (Attachment #7) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes by reference.

Mr. Chip Wheelen, Executive Director, Kansas Association of Osteopathic Medicine was the last proponent conferee to come before the Committee. Mr. Wheelen said the Association was somewhat concerned about the language contained in the subsection (b) at lines 32-35. A copy of his testimony and the balloon are (Attachment #8) attached and incorporated into the Minutes by reference.

Written Proponent Testimonies were presented for Ms. Carla Mahany, Kansas Public Affairs Director, Planned Parenthood of Kansas and Mid-Missouri and Mr. Thomas Bell, Sr. Vice President/Legal Counsel, Kansas Hospital Association. Copies of their testimonies are (Attachments #9 and 10) attached and incorporated into the Minutes by reference.

Ms. Laura Howard, Assistant Secretary of Health Care Policy gave Neutral Testimony to the Committee. A copy of her written testimony and handout are (Attachment #11 and 12) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes by reference.

Chairperson Wagle asked Ms. Howard to explain the drafts attached in her testimony and asked if other states were experiencing this. Ms. Howard responded. Committee discussion continued with questions from Senators Haley, Praeger, and Salmans being answered by Ms. Howard with concerns regarding the WIC Program, cost, teen pregnancy to the MOM Program.

Action on SB 118

With no further comments or questions, a conceptual motion was introduced by Senator Praeger, with the deletion of "local health department" and inserting the word "Secretary" on line 43 of SB 118. Senator Barnett seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Senator Steineger made a motion that SB 118 be passed as amended. Senator Harrington seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Adjournment

As it was 2:30 p.m., the meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 12, 2001.