

**SENATE BILL No. 477**

By Committee on Federal and State Affairs

2-22

1 AN ACT concerning state psychiatric hospitals; establishing the joint  
2 committee on state psychiatric hospital oversight.

3  
4 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

5 Section 1. (a) There is hereby established the joint committee on state  
6 psychiatric hospital oversight which shall consist of 10 members appointed  
7 as follows: (1) The chairperson of the senate committee on public health  
8 and welfare, or the chairperson's designee; (2) the chairperson of the house  
9 committee on health and human services, or the chairperson's designee; (3)  
10 the chairperson of the senate committee on ways and means, or the  
11 chairperson's designee; (4) the chairperson of the house committee on  
12 appropriations, or the chairperson's designee; (5) the ranking minority  
13 member of the senate committee on ways and means; (6) the ranking  
14 minority member of the house committee on appropriations; and (7) the  
15 member of the house of representatives from each representative district  
16 and the member of the senate from each senate district in which a state  
17 psychiatric hospital is located.

18 (b) Members shall be appointed for terms coinciding with the  
19 legislative terms for which such members are elected or appointed. All  
20 members appointed to fill vacancies in the membership of the joint  
21 committee and all members appointed to succeed members appointed to  
22 membership on the joint committee shall be appointed in the manner  
23 provided for the original appointment of the member succeeded.

24 (c) The chairperson of the joint committee on state psychiatric  
25 hospital oversight shall be selected as follows:

26 (1) The initial chairperson shall be the member of the house of  
27 representatives or the senate with the most years of service as a legislator  
28 from those members of the house of representatives or the senate  
29 designated in subsection (a)(7). Such chairperson shall serve a term ending  
30 on December 31, 2016.

31 (2) Each subsequent chairperson shall be elected by a quorum of the  
32 joint committee on state psychiatric hospital oversight at the first meeting  
33 of the calendar year. Such chairperson shall serve a term ending on  
34 December 31 of such calendar year.

35 (d) The joint committee on state psychiatric hospital oversight shall  
36 meet upon the call of the chairperson. The joint committee on state

1 psychiatric hospital oversight may meet at any time and at any place  
2 within the state as designated by the chairperson.

3 (e) Members of the joint committee on state psychiatric oversight  
4 shall be paid compensation, travel expenses and subsistence expenses or  
5 allowance pursuant to the provisions of K.S.A. 75-3212, and amendments  
6 thereto, for attendance at any meeting of the joint committee authorized by  
7 the legislative coordinating council.

8 (f) In accordance with K.S.A. 46-1204, and amendments thereto, the  
9 legislative coordinating council may provide for such professional services  
10 as may be requested by the joint committee on state psychiatric oversight.

11 (g) A quorum of the joint committee on state psychiatric hospital  
12 oversight shall be six.

13 (h) The joint committee on state psychiatric hospital oversight may  
14 make recommendations and introduce such legislation as deemed  
15 necessary in performing such joint committee's functions.

16 (i) In addition to other powers and duties prescribed by law or by the  
17 legislative coordinating council, the joint committee on state psychiatric  
18 hospital oversight shall:

19 (1) Monitor the patient population and review and study the activities  
20 and plans of the treatment programs and the correlation to patient  
21 outcomes;

22 (2) tour each state psychiatric hospital, considering and evaluating  
23 facility issues relating to plant management and safety;

24 (3) review and study the Kansas department for aging and disability  
25 services (KDADS) policies relating to each state psychiatric hospital;

26 (4) review and study KDADS responsiveness and efforts in  
27 identifying and resolving issues relating to facility, staff and patients;

28 (5) review and study KDADS staffing programs and policies relating  
29 to staffing, recruitment, retention, employee morale and employee  
30 relations issues;

31 (6) review and identify patient and employee safety concerns; and

32 (7) review and study any other issues that the joint committee on state  
33 psychiatric hospital oversight identifies or have been brought to the joint  
34 committee's attention.

35 (j) The joint committee on state psychiatric hospital oversight shall  
36 make an annual report to the legislative coordinating council as provided  
37 in K.S.A. 46-1207, and amendments thereto, and such special reports to  
38 the house of representatives and senate as are deemed appropriate by the  
39 joint committee.

40 (k) The staff of the office of revisor of statutes, the legislative  
41 research department and the division of legislative administrative services  
42 shall provide such assistance as may be requested by the joint committee  
43 on state psychiatric oversight.

- 1       (1) The provisions of this section shall expire on July 1, 2020.
- 2       Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
- 3       publication in the statute book.