

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Sandy Praeger at 10:00 a.m. on March 2, 2000 in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present:       Norman Furse, Revisor of Statutes  
  Lisa Montgomery, Revisor of Statutes  
  Hank Avila, Legislative Research Department  
  JoAnn Bunten, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Mary Beth Gentry, Assistant Dean for External Affairs, KU School of Medicine  
Jasjit S. Ahluwalia, M.D., Vice Chair, Director of Research, KU School of Medicine  
Amy O'Brien-Ladner, M.D., Associate Professor of Medicine, KU School of Medicine  
Phyllis Gilmore, Executive Director, Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board  
Ronald Eisenbarth, Kansas Alcoholism and Drug Addiction Counselors Association

Others attending: See attached list

**Presentation on: KU Mini Medical School**

Mary Beth Gentry, Assistant Dean for External Affairs, KU School of Medicine, briefed the Committee on the University of Kansas School of Medicine Mini Medical School which opened on September 14, 1999. She noted that the philosophy behind a Mini Medical School was to encourage the interested, yet relatively uninformed public, and the skeptical, perhaps out-of-touch scientists, to meet together in an intimate setting to help break down the barriers. The goal of the program is to help the students, upon completion of the course, to know the basic concepts needed to understand news reports and medical research, know how to improve their health and have an understanding of the ongoing role research plays in medicine. (Attachment 1)

Two of the instructors in the Mini Medical School, Jasjit S. Ahluwalia, M.D., Vice Chair, Director of Research, KU School of Medicine, briefed the Committee on "Tobacco Use: A 21<sup>st</sup> Century Pandemic" (Attachment 2), and Amy O'Brien-Ladner, M.D., Associate Professor of Medicine, KU School of Medicine, briefed the Committee on her research on "Iron Lung". (Attachment 3)

**Hearing on SB 398 - Addiction counselor licensure act**

Phyllis Gilmore, Executive Director, Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board, addressed the Committee as an informational and neutral conferee on **SB 398** which would create graduated licensure for drug and alcohol counselors under the Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board. Ms. Gilmore noted that BSRB is neutral as to a recommendation on the bill, however, should the Committee decide to move forward, the Board does have what it considers to be a friendly amendment relating to the issue of confidentiality and privileged communication which was attached to her written testimony. (Attachment 4)

Ronald Eisenbarth, Kansas Alcoholism and Drug Addiction Counselors Association, testified before the Committee in support of **SB 398**. Mr. Eisenbarth gave a brief history of KADACA and his involvement with addiction counselor credentialing in Kansas. He noted that KADACA appeared before the Legislative Task Force on Providers of Mental Health Services in 1999 at formal hearings to present a licensure concept for addiction counselors. He felt such licensure would provide both practice and title protection, as well as protection to the consumer of counseling services in Kansas. Mr. Eisenbarth provided testimony from the task force hearings along with his written testimony. (Attachment 5) During Commission discussion on **SB 398** the following concerns were discussed: scope of practice issue, credentialing process, program standards and turf battles.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE, Room 526-S, Statehouse, at 10:00 a.m. on March 2, 2000.

Other testimony in support of **SB 398** was received from Craig Collins, J.D., KADACA Executive Director, (Attachment 6); Daniel Lord, Ph.D., Marriage and Family Therapy Representative on BSRB, (Attachment 7); and Harold D. Price, LMSW, Director of Program Services, Family Life Center, Columbus, (Attachment 8).

There were no opponents to **SB 398**.

### **Approval of Committee Minutes**

Senator Salmans made a motion to approve the Committee minutes of February 21, 22, 2000, seconded by Senator Lee. The motion carried.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 6, 2000.