

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE FEDERAL & STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Doug Mays at 11:45 p.m. on May 6, 2002 in Room 313-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative Lisa Benlon, Excused
Representative Tom Burroughs, Excused
Representative Ray Cox, Excused
Representative Joann Freeborn, Excused
Representative Broderick Henderson, Excused
Representative Todd Novascone, Excused
Representative Tony Powell, Excused
Representative Candy Ruff, Excused
Representative Dan Williams, Excused

Committee staff present: Mary Torrence, Revisor of Statutes
Russell Mills, Legislative Research Analyst
Shelia Pearman, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Chris Collins, Kansas Medical Society
Tom Bell, Kansas Hospital Association
Sally Finney, Kansas Public Health Association

Chairman Mays opened the hearing on **HR 6018 - Foreign doctors practicing in medically underserved areas.** Ms. Collins stated the Medical Society addressed this issue at their conference last weekend. She urged the committee to support the resolution that would solve the chronic physician shortage affecting many Kansas' rural communities. (Attachment #1)

Mr. Bell encouraged the committee to establish a Conrad 20 program to pursue appropriate J-1 visa waivers. He informed the committee Kansas is one of only six states which presently do not have this program. He believes it is imperative for the state to step in to assure the continuation of the waiver process which the USDA has said it will withdraw from maintaining this program. (Attachment #2)

Ms. Finney stated her support for **HR 6018**. She stated this is definitely a public health concern due to the areas which affects both rural areas and metropolitan areas due to the inability to adequately staff physician services. (Attachment #3)

The hearing on **HR 6018** was closed.

Representative Rehorn made the motion to adopt HR 6018. Representative Hutchins seconded the motion. The Revisor brought to the committee's attention the need to amend line 33-34 to read Environment vs. Education. Representative Rehorn made the motion to amend as stated. Representative Faber seconded the motion. Representative Rehorn made a substitute motion to adopt HR 6018 as amended favorable for adoption. Representative Hutchins seconded the motion.

Representative Mays thanked the staff and committee members for their efforts during the session. **Representative Gilbert made a motion to approve the minutes of February 6-7 and April 1-4 with corrections cited by Representative Cook, Rehorn and Wilson prior to the meeting. Representative Hutchins seconded the motion. The motion passed.** Minutes from today's hearing will be distributed to committee members who should notify Ms. Pearman with any needed corrections prior to Thursday, May 9, 2002. Otherwise minutes will be considered approved.

The committee meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m. No additional meetings are expected at this point of the session.