

Approved: _____

Date

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH & WELFARE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Senator Susan Wagle at 1:30 p.m. on March 13, 2001 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present: Ms. Emalene Correll, Legislative Research Department
Mr. Norman Furse, 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:

Ms. Karen Hawes, ARNP, MSN, Volunteer, American Heart Associations
Mr. Kevin Walker, Kansas Hospital Association
Ms. Paula Marmet, Director, Bureau of Health Promotion

Others attending: See attached guest list.

Approval of Minutes

Upon calling the meeting to order, the Minutes distributed on March 6, 2001 are approved, as there was no response received from Committee members.

Hearing on SCR 1608 - urging Secretary of KDHE to review the effects of obesity on health complications.

Chairperson Wagle announced that the Committee would be hearing on SCR 1608 and first asked staff to give a brief overview of the bill. Ms. Emalene Correll, Legislative Research Department stated that the subject matter is familiar to some of the Committee. There was a resolution relative to this issue and passed out of the Senate Public Health & Welfare Committee last year and Senate, but did not get out of the House by the end of session. Highlights include the bill citing various types of health problems that arise in obesity the size of the problem in the United States; urges the Secretary of Health and Environment to review the effect of obesity in both children and adults on health complications and report on current programs the state is offering; make recommendations for additions and improvements to state programs relating to this subject, prior to the convening of the 2002 legislation. She stood before the Committee for questions.

As there were no question, Chairperson Wagle introduced the first proponent to give testimony, Ms. Karen Haws, ARNP/MSN, Volunteer, American Heart Association. The highlights of Ms. Haws testimony included the definitions and statistics of obesity, referred to a handout regarding BMI which is a measure of ideal height vs. weight, and according to the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, diseases which used to occur mainly in those over 65 are now prevalent in 50 year olds and a significant amount of obese children have developed cholesterol buildup in their heart vessels by age 13. A copy of her written testimony is (Attachments #1) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes by reference. And a copy of the JAMA booklet has been filed in the Chairperson's office

The second proponent conferee recognized by the Chairperson was Mr. Kevin Walker, Kansas Hospital Association who stated two typo errors in the resolution. (Line 25 "casual relationship" should read "causal" and line 26 in the word "dyclipedemia", the "c" should be an "s". He also mentioned he had left a calculator with Chairperson Wagle to determine each member's body mass index. No written testimony was provided.

Ms. Paula Marmet, Director, Bureau of Health Promotion was the final proponent conferee to testify. Ms. Marmet also provided statistical information from the JAMA handout where percentages have increased in obesity and health care costs (citing ex. Diabetes, gall bladder disease, etc.) in all states, across both sexes and among all ages, race, and educational groups. She also stated that KDHE staff is currently facilitating a state planning process, where 40 participants representing public and private agencies and organizations from across the state are engaged in the process of identifying priorities for reversing the trend of increased obesity and decreased physical activity of Kansas. A copy of her written testimony is (Attachment 2) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes by reference.

As there was no opponent or neutral testimony, Chairperson Wagle asked Ms. Marmot to expand on her comment regarding the 40 consultants. Questions and comments also came from Senators Praeger, Brungardt, Haley, Barnett, and Steineger, Ms. Correll for Ms. Hawes and Ms. Marmet ranging from genetic implications; different body measurements (why the testimony shows me getting more body weight for me than women); a previous study done last year; is KDHE just looking at the surface as opposed to cause?; to how does this recommendation (120K) fix the problem. After a lengthy discussion, the Committee did agree that the dollars requested probably would not be available. Senator Harrington offered alternatives such as school programs.

Action on HB 2313 - State Board of Nursing approval of schools and programs.

With no further discussion, the next order of business was working of HB 2313. Senator Jordan motioned that the bill pass favorably as amended. Senator Steineger seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 15, 2001.