

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Stephen Morris at 10:35 a.m. on February 24, 2003, in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Senator Jim Barone - excused
Senator Jean Schodorf - excused

Committee staff present:

Alan Conroy, Director, Kansas Legislative Research Department
J. G. Scott, Chief Fiscal Analyst, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Martha Dorsey, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Melissa Calderwood, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Audrey Nogle, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Norman Furse, Revisor of Statutes
Michael Corrigan, Assistant Revisor of Statutes
Judy Bromich, Administrative Analyst
Mary Shaw, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Janet Schalansky, Secretary, Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services
Stephanie Wilson, Executive Director, The Alliance for Kansans with Developmental Disabilities
Debbie Collins, Director of Community and Government Relations, Johnson County
Developmental Supports
Collin McKinney, Director, ComCare Community Developmental Disability Organization
Ron Pasmore, KETCH (written testimony)
Kim Miller, Associate Director, InterHab
Tom Laing, Executive Director, InterHab

Others attending: See attached list

Bill Introduction

Senator Adkins moved, with a second by Senator Jordan, to introduce a bill concerning district coroners (3rs0871). Motion carried on a voice vote.

The Chairman mentioned that the committee would not be meeting on March 3 or 4 and that the March 4 time may be used for subcommittee meetings.

Chairman Morris opened the public hearing on:

SB 242--Developmental disabilities reform acts separation of intake and referral from treatment and care services

Staff briefed the committee on the bill.

Janet Schalansky, Secretary, Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services, testified on **SB 242** and explained that the bill amends the Developmental Disabilities Reform Act (Attachment 1). Secretary Schalansky mentioned that the plan for Community Developmental Disabilities Organizations (CDDOs) consolidation and independence, which preceded the introduction of **SB 242**, alluded to the possibility that additional federal dollars could be brought into the service system if the system were designed only to serve people through the Home and Community Based DD waiver. She explained that the agency does not support a public policy decision which would eliminate services for people who are not eligible for or who do not access Home and Community Based DD waiver services.

Stephanie Wilson, Executive Director, The Alliance for Kansans with Developmental Disabilities, testified in support of **SB 242** (Attachment 2). Ms. Wilson mentioned that the reasons The Alliance supports the bill are better maximization of existing funds and creation of more efficient/objective CDDOs.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Debbie Collins, Director of Community and Government Relations, Johnson County Developmental Supports, testified in opposition to **SB 242** (Attachment 3). Ms. Collins explained that it is their request to either not recommend **SB 242** for further action, or at a minimum, allow adequate time for collaborative stakeholder input. She urged the committee to not forget about those who are waiting for services.

Collin McKinney, Director, ComCare Community Developmental Disability Organization, testified in opposition to **SB 242** (Attachment 4). Mr. McKinney mentioned that his perception of **SB 242** is that it seeks to take power away from counties and simultaneously claims rights to county mill-levy funds that would be used to fund the DD service system. In conclusion, he noted that rather than letting a current budgetary crisis lead to hasty changes to a system that has taken years to develop, thoughtful planning should continue for the system in the future.

Written testimony was presented by Collin McKinney on behalf of Ron Pasmore, KETCH, in opposition to **SB 242** (Attachment 5).

Kim Miller, Associate Director, InterHab, testified in opposition to **SB 242** (Attachment 6). Ms. Miller expressed concern that one-third of the DD service population may lose services. She noted that the bill, which disregards the long-standing decision of counties in meeting the needs of their most vulnerable citizens, puts in jeopardy the continued county funding of the DD system.

Tom Laing, Executive Director, InterHab, testified in opposition to **SB 242** (Attachment 7). Mr. Laing presented several reasons for opposition to the bill as listed in his written testimony. In conclusion, Mr. Laing mentioned that InterHab would work with the Legislature and SRS, at any time if asked, to examine the administrative options that exist for evaluation and review. He explained that they cannot support a bill that has not examined the unintended outcomes of such a wholesale systemwide change.

There being no further conferees to come before the committee, the Chairman closed the public hearing on **SB 242**.

The meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for February 25, 2003.