

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMERCE AND LABOR COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Don Dahl at 9:00 A.M. on February 4, 2005 in Room 241-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Bob Grant- excused
Dale Swenson- unexcused
Patricia Kilpatrick- excused
Todd Novascone- excused

Committee staff present:

Jerry Ann Donaldson, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Norm Furse, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Renaë Jefferies, Office of Revisor of Statutes
June Evans, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Representative Bob Bethell

Others attending:

See attached list.

The Chairman opened the hearing on **HB 2157 - Employment Security Disqualification of Benefits**.

Staff gave a briefing stating the bill was introduced in Health and Human Services Committee by Representative Bob Bethell. The key to this legislation is that an individual shall be disqualified for benefits. The new language is if the individual was found not to have a disqualifying adjudication or conviction under K.S.A. 39-970 and amendments thereto or K.S.A. 65-5117 and amendments thereto, was hired while undergoing charging, adjudication or trial for a disqualifying felony listed in K.S.A. 39-970 and amendments thereto or K.S.A. 65-5117 and amendments thereto, then was subsequently convicted of such felony and discharged pursuant to K.S.A. 39-970 and amendments thereto or K.S.A. 65-5117 and amendments thereto, an individual shall be disqualified for benefits. The disqualification shall begin the day following the separation and shall continue until after the individual becomes reemployed and has had earnings from insured work of at least three times the individual's determined weekly benefit amount.

Representative Bob Bethell testified as a proponent to **HB 2157**. This bill was introduced to correct an issue that is caused by the requirements that a person with a person felony not be employed by a health care facility. Current Kansas law states that the administrator of a nursing facility cannot knowingly employ a person who has been convicted of a person felony (Attachment 1).

The Chairman closed the hearing on **HB 2157**.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m. The next meeting will be February 7.