

MINUTES OF THE SENATE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman James Barnett at 1:30 P.M. on March 21, 2007 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Emalene Correll, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Terri Weber, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Nobuko Folmsbee, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Morgan Dreyer, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Sheldon Weisgrau, Sr. Policy Analyst, Kansas Health Institute
Joseph Kroll, Director, Bureau of Child Care and Health Facilities, Kansas Department of Health and Environment
Marcia Nielsen, PhD, MPH, Executive Director, Kansas Health Policy Authority

Others attending:

See attached list.

Upon calling the meeting to order, Chairman Barnett called upon Emalene Correll to read and explain the three new amendment for **HB 2483**. The first amendment was offered by the Physical Therapy Association. A copy of this amendment is (Attachment 1) attached hereto and in corporate into the Minutes as referenced. The next two amendments are two variations of technical changes and clean up. A copy of the two technical amendments are (Attachment 2) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

Action on HB 2483 – An act concerning physical therapy

A copy of testimony for the hearing on **HB 2483** in which the conferees have already testified are (Attachment 3) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

Submitted written testimony was added by Charles Wheelen, Kansas Association of Osteopathic Medicine. A copy of his testimony is (Attachment 4) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referened.

The motion was made by Senator Schmidt to adopt the amendment offered by PTA (labeled #1). It was seconded by Senator Journey and the motion carried.

The motion was made by Senator Schmidt to adopt the amendment (labeled #3). It was seconded by Senator Palmer and the motion carried.

The motion was made by Senator Schmidt to move the bill out favorably as amended with technical changes. It was seconded by Senator Palmer and the motion carried.

The Chair announced that the next order of business would be to continue the hearing on **HB 2418**.

Continued Hearing on HB 2418 – An act concerning the definition of general hospital

A copy of the testimony for the hearing on HB 2418 in which the conferees have already testified are (Attachment 5) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

Chairman Barnett called upon neutral conferee, Sheldon Weisgrau, Sr. Policy Analyst, Kansas Health Institute who stated that his testimony would address the legislation to better define general and specialty hospitals for licensure purposes. A copy of his testimony is (Attachment 6) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

The Chair called upon Joseph Kroll, Director, Bureau of Child Care and Health Facilities, Kansas Department of Health and Environment who stated that this bill adds criteria to clarify the differences between general

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee at 1:30 P.M. on March 21, 2007 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

hospitals and special hospitals, but it may be premature to adopt it before evaluating the recommendations of the Health Policy Authority. A copy of his testimony is (Attachment 7) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

Chairman Barnett called upon Marcia Nielsen, PhD, MPH, Executive Director, Kansas Health Policy Authority who stated that KHPA supports the effort reflected in **HB 2418** to align state licensure law with recent developments in the hospital market and to ensure that Medicare payment policies dependent on state licensure definitions have the intended impact. Dr. Nielsen included with her testimony a Board approved study concerning A report on: The Definition and Impact of Specialty Hospitals in Kansas and a fact sheet: Sole Community Hospital. A copy of her testimony, study and fact sheet are (Attachment 8) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

Written testimony was provided by Kari Bruffett, The University of Kansas Hospital. A copy of her testimony is (Attachment 9) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

Written testimony was provided by Kevin Conlin, President/CEO, Via Christi Health System. A copy of his testimony is (Attachment 10) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

Written testimony was provided by Rick Pollack, Executive Vice President, American Hospital Association. A copy of his testimony is (Attachment 11) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

Questions and Comments came from Senator Wagle, Schmidt, Barnett, Palmer and Brungardt regarding sole community hospital, Emporia Hospital situation, KHPA study, tax exemption, possible bill introduction for the next session, pre-mature bill, member hospitals of Kansas Hospital Association, hospitals category of general vs. specialty, small rural hospital affects, trauma center, more time is needed to with progress and understanding of this bill.

With no more time, Chairman Barnett closed the hearing on **HB 2418**.

The Chair announced that the last item on the agenda was to approve the Minutes for March 15, 2007 and the Joint with Ways and Means March 15, 2007 meeting.

The motion was made by Senator Schmidt to approve the Minutes. It was seconded by Senator Haley and the motion carried.

Adjournment

As there was no more time and no conferees left to testify, the meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting is for March 22, 2007.