

MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC SAFETY BUDGET COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Virgil Peck at 3:30 p.m. on March 15, 2011, in Room 142-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Daniel Yoza, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Aaron Klaassen, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Jeannie Dillon, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Viola Riggin, Director KUPI, Department of Corrections
Britt Nichols, Inspector General, Juvenile Justice Authority
Chad Austin, Vice President, Government Relations, KS Hospital Asn.
Dan Morin, Director of Government Affairs, Kansas Medical Society

Others attending:

See attached list.

The Chair opened the hearing on **HB 2359 - Adding the department of corrections to statutes regarding payment of health care expenses for people in custody.**

Daniel Yoza, Assistant Revisor, briefed the Committee on **HB 2359.**

Viola Riggin represented the Department of Corrections as a proponent to **HB 2359.** She stated that the Department of Corrections supports the use of Medicaid rates in establishing the medical costs charged for prisoners and believes that the savings for the taxpayers of the State should be extended to cover inmates in the department's custody. (Attachment 1)

Britt Nichols, Inspector General, Kansas Juvenile Justice Authority, appeared before the Committee as a proponent to the bill. He stated that it would be appropriate to include the Juvenile Justice Authority within the enabling provisions of the **HB 2359** amendments to KSA 22-4612. (Attachment 2)

Dan Morin, Director of Government Affairs, Kansas Medical Society, spoke as an opponent to **HB 2359.** Mr. Morin stated that if the population served continues to increase under current reimbursement rates, it is likely that the program will begin to see attrition in the provider network. (Attachment 3)

Chad Austin, Kansas Hospital Association, gave testimony in opposition to **HB 2359.** Mr. Austin stated that hospitals are already contributing their fair share to Medicaid and providing services to every Medicaid patient at a loss. (Attachment 4)

Written testimony in opposition to **HB 2359** was submitted by Cynthia Smith, Providence Medical Center/Saint John Hospital. (Attachment 5)

Chairman Virgil Peck closed the hearing on **HB 2359.**

The Chair asked the committee to direct their attention to **HB 2173 - Kansas Highway Patrol; fees for certain services.** Moved by Representative Mesa, seconded by Representative Bethell to amend line 11, striking the word fixed and adding "negotiated", and in line 22, striking the word fix and adding "negotiate". Motion passed. Moved by Representative Bethell, seconded by Representative Gonzales to pass **HB2173** favorably as amended. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 16th, 2011, at 3:30 pm.