

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE KANSAS FUTURES COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Carlos Mayans at 1:30 p.m. on January 31, 2001 in Room 526-S of the State Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative Karen DiVita - excused
 Representative David Huff - excused
 Representative Laura McClure - excused
 Representative Tom Sloan - excused

Committee staff present: April Holman, Legislative Research Department
 Lynne Holt, Legislative Research Department
 Amy Kramer, Legislative Research Department
 Lois Hedrick, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:
 Mercedes Bern-Klug, ElderCount Project Director, on staff with
 The University of Kansas Medical Center (KUMC)

Others attending: See attached list

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Chairman Mayans. He first asked Vice-Chairman Bethell (who chairs the Long-Term-Care Services Task Force) to brief the members about the activities of the Task Force.

Long-Term-Care Task Force Activities

Vice-Chairman Bethell provided a copy of the Report of the Task Force Report given the 2001 Legislature. (The report is available through the Kansas Legislative Research Department.) He noted the Task Force has determined six goals for a long-term course for future consideration. Also, he stated the work of the Task Force and this committee can dovetail into a single synergism to guide the state's policy decisions in the future.

The Chairman then introduce Mercedes Bern-Klug to describe the project she is directing, entitled the

Kansas ElderCount Project.

The project is being coordinated by KUMC to develop a Chart Book to describe the older population county-by-county for its use by policy makers, program planners, and the general public. Ms. Bern-Klug stated there is much data available nationally, but not at the local level. She noted the Task Force met in January and assigned sub-committees to develop data on health, economics, vital statistics, nursing home and long-term-care activities; and to prioritize these variables into a workable data base. During its 5-year tenure, the Task Force will submit a report with recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature.

Chairman Mayans asked if there is available data concerning minorities who are seniors. She indicated this information will be included in the latest census to be released this summer. Also, he asked if data on adult care facilities admissions as to the number receiving Medicaid, private pay, or long-term-care insurance is involved. She replied such data will be included from the nursing home reports. The average for residents in adult care facilities spending down their finances and then being required to obtain Medicaid is 18 months. Few have long-term-care insurance. Representative Sharp and Representative Lane suggested this committee promote incentives for the purchase of such insurance in view of the anticipated increase of the aging population. Representative Horst suggested the new Chart Book include the number of clients being serviced in any health or nursing home setting. In response to questions from Representative Miller about universal-designed homes for the aging and disabled, Ms. Bern-Klug noted

CONTINUATION SHEET

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that Lynn Norris-Baker, of the Galichia Center on Aging at Kansas State and a member of the advisory committee, is an architect and gerontologist. Representative Miller stated the universal design should be a concept this committee endorses.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 1, 2001.