

MINUTES OF THE SENATE FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND INSURANCE

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman David Wysong at 9:30 A.M. on January 13, 2005 in Room 234-N of the Capitol.

Committee members absent: Dennis Wilson- excused
Ruth Teichman- excused

Committee staff present: Melissa Calderwood, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Terri Weber, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Ken Wilke, Revisor of Statutes
Sandy Yingling, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Dr. Bob Day, Governor's Office of Health Planning and Finance

Others attending: See attached list.

Vice Chair opened the meeting by introducing Dr. Bob Day.

An overview of the Business Health Partnership and the Governor's Healthy Kansas initiative was presented by Dr. Bob Day. Dr. Day explained the establishment of the Business Health Partnership and its purpose regarding health care cost. The Governor's preliminary initiative includes program costs. Dr. Day discussed the effects obesity, smoking exercise and prescription drugs have on healthcare cost to the state. He discussed waste and efforts to streamline cost. (Attachment 1)

The Vice Chair acknowledged Senator Barnett who questioned Dr. Day concerning the effect declining income from tobacco tax would have on the state.

The Vice Chair acknowledged Senator Barone who inquired how a small business owner could sustain large medical expense writeoffs.

Vice Chair recognized Senator Brownlee who shared comments regarding pharmacy programs.

Vice Chair recognized Senator Schmidt's comments regarding Canada drugs.

Vice Chair recognized Senator Brungardt who discussed looking beyond current year; define suitability and efficiency.

Senator Barnett brought up the issue of Web site prescriptions and the cost of training and staffing to keep up with e-records and e-healthcare. Also, the effects the cost the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) is having.

Senator Brownlee addressed other issues - referrals; making drugs for ADD kids a controlled substance; standardize e-claim.

Senator Wysong asked about BHPC (Business Health Policy Committee).

Senator Barnett asked how a company qualifies for the BHP insurance plan.

Vice Chair Wysong asked if there were any further questions and thanked Dr. Day for his presentation.

The Vice Chair announced Tuesday, January 18th meeting and Commissioner Praeger will attend.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.