

MINUTES OF THE SENATE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Senator Susan Wagle at 1:30 p.m. on February 4, 2002 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Senator Nancy Harrington
Ms. Emalene Correl., KS Legislative Research Department
Ms. Margaret Cianciarulo, Administrative Assistant

Committee staff present: Ms. Lisa Montgomery, Revisor of Statutes
Ms. Mary Best, Administrative Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee: Ms. Janet Schalansky, Secretary
Social Rehabilitation Services

Others attending: See attached guest list.

Introduction of bills

Chairperson Wagle opened the meeting saying because of inclement weather, the meeting scheduled for January 30, 2002 was being held today. She then recognizing the Secretary of Social Rehabilitation Services, Ms. Janet Schalansky. Ms. Schalansky began by presenting a legislative proposal (Irs1375) regarding Estate Recovery - Funeral Balances. The bill concerns recipients and the recouping of certain monies and repayment to the Secretary of Social Rehabilitation Services. It amends K.S.A. 16-301 and repeals the existing section. A copy of her request is (Attachment 1) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes by reference. A motion was made by Senator Jim Barnett to introduce the bill and was seconded by Senator Nick Jordan. A vote of the Committee was taken and the motion was passed.

Overview of Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services

Before the Committee, Ms. Schalansky next presented an overview of her department. Highlights included the SRS Agency's mission, their roots, their central functions, expenditures, keyed policy initiatives and budget investments. Before giving her presentation, Ms. Schalansky introduced her staff, who were present in the audience. A copy of the agency overview is (Attachment 2) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes by reference.

A question and comment discussion followed between Senators Praeger and Barnett with Ms. Schalansky. Discussions covered the attraction of multiple families and single people into Kansas because of better benefits and no specific rules governing time element establishing residency to receive Kansas benefits.

Ms. Laura Howard, Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services, addressed Pharmacies and Medicaid fraud. There was no written testimony and no questions from the Committee.

Adjournment

Request was made for further bills or business, and with none coming forth, the meeting was adjourned. The time was 2:25 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 5, 2002.

CONTINUATION SHEET