

MINUTES OF THE SENATE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Senator Susan Wagle at 1:30 p.m. on January 29, 2003 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present: Mr. Norm Furse, Revisor of Statutes
Ms. Margaret Cianciarulo, Administrative Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee: Ms. Marla Lopeman, Vice President of Sales & Marketing,
Alterra Sterling House

Others attending: See attached guest list

Introduction of Bills

Upon calling the meeting to order, the Chair announced that Ms. Elizabeth Sileo, from Senator Barbara Allen's district, is opening a new concept in childcare where people can drop off children on an hourly basis, similar to what is available in California. The Chair also said that Ms. Sileo did not want to have to go through all the requirements of KDHE of bringing all of the medical records of each child she takes and she had requested legislation to exempt an hourly childcare facility from the medical records. A motion was made by Senator Wagle to introduce the legislation. Senator Barnett seconded and the motion carried.

The Chair then called on Senator Barnett who asked that the Committee introduce legislation on two issues, the first on behalf of the March of Dimes to develop a registry for children born with birth defects. Senator Steineger made a motion to introduce the March of Dimes legislation. It was seconded by Senator Salmans and the motion carried. Senator Barnett then asked that the Committee introduce legislation that has to do with the initiative that is actually nation wide healthy people 2010, but to bring that to a state level of health Kansas 2010, trying to look at where we want to be in 2010 and beyond in terms of the health of our state, comparing where we are now and how we can set and obtain those goals with action plans in integration with local communities. A motion was made by Senator Steineger to introduce the legislation. Senator Jordan seconded and the motion passed.

Presentation of Alterra Sterling House - Update on Assisted Living Industry

As there were no more bill requests, the Chair announced there would be a presentation from Ms. Marla Lopeman, who is the Vice President of Sales and Marketing, Alterra Sterling House. Ms. Lopeman began her presentation with the definition of assisted living, the services it provides, and **SB8**, introduced in 1995. Highlights of her overview of Alterra Sterling House included:

- 1.) It is one of the nations leading providers in assisted living residences and the largest operator of freestanding residences for individuals with Alzheimer's disease or other forms of memory loss;
- 2.) Alterra House's mission and philosophy, and a map of where they are located, not only in Kansas, but throughout the United States;
- 3.) They're assisted living supportive services and their Clare Bridge Cottages for Alzheimer's patients;

CONTINUATION SHEET

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4.) The greatest challenges the assisted living industry will face in 2003 (ex. Increased labor expenses - turnover costs four times the monthly salary of the last employer, and 52% of all AL's have dementia or Alzheimer's);

5.) Licensed Only Adult Care Home Discussion Committee (their mission, purpose, goals, and their change proposals); and lastly,

6.) Alterra's innovative advances to deliver a better product.

A copy of her presentation is (Attachment 1) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes by reference.

The Chair thanked Ms. Lopeman then asked the Committee for questions or comments. Senators Wagle, Barnett, Haley, Harrington, and Brownlee asked questions of Ms. Lopeman ranging from wages (ex. what is the base salary and 150% turnover rate down to 98%), clarification of Kansas "on the cutting edge" of working toward a collaborative working relationship to provide a regulatory environment, contacting former State Senator Mark Parkinson and Ms. Shirley Allenbrand (re: their AL Center and Committee), the concept of moving KDHE oversight to the Department of Aging, when do you say no, when you cannot accept into your homes, lengths of stays, clarification of the statement "four times the annual rate to replace a lost employee" (and compared to other facilities in other parts of the country), to are there national benchmarks for scores before someone goes into assisted living and scores for nursing homes.

Adjournment

As it was going on 2:30 p.m., the start of Senate session, the Chair concluded the meeting by again thanking Ms. Lopeman and her staff for traveling to Kansas and sharing her information with the Committee. Adjournment time was 2:30 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 30, 2003.