

MINUTES OF THE SENATE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Susan Wagle at 1:30 p.m. on February 2, 2004 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator David Haley- excused
Mr. Norm Furse, Revisor of Statutes

Committee staff present:

Ms. Emalene Correll, Legislative Research
Mrs. Diana Lee
Ms. Margaret Cianciarulo, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Ms. Karla Finnel, Executive Director, Kansas Association of the Medically Underserved(KAMU)

Others attending:

Please See Attached List.

Introduction of Bills

Upon calling the meeting to order, Chairperson Wagle introduced Mr. Larry Williams, Executive Director, Kansas Dental Board who asked that the Committee introduce legislation concerning dentistry, relating to the administering of sedation and anaesthetics in dental offices. Senator Barnett made a motion to introduce this legislation. It was seconded by Senator Jordan and the motion passed.

The Chair then called on Mr. Larry Buening, Executive Director, Kansas State Board of Healing Arts, who also asked that the Committee introduce legislation concerning institutional licenses under the Kansas healing arts act; amending K.S.A.65-2895 and repealing the existing section. Senator Steineger made a motion to introduce this legislation. It was seconded by Senator Salmans and the motion passed.

Presentation on “Growing Primary Care Clinics and Community Health Centers Within the State”

The Chair then announced to the Committee that they would be hearing a presentation from Ms. Karla Finnel, Executive Director of the Kansas Association of the Medically Underserved (KAMU), who would be presenting information regarding the primary care clinics and community health centers within the State. A copy of her presentation is (Attachment 1) attached hereto and incorporated into the minutes as referenced. Highlights included:

- 1) who they were - diverse group for primary care safety net clinics whose mission is to promote accessible high quality comprehensive primary care services for the medically underserved without regard to ability to pay;
- 2) services - ex. inform policy makers, technical assistance, placing health professional students as interns in CHC's;
- 3) facts - ex. 280,000 residents lack access to health insurance and 72% of uninsured had a family income < 200% of FPL;
- 4) impact of lack of health insurance - ex. Uninsured have a higher utilization of the emergency room, have not had a doctor visit within the last 6 months, & forego needed care resulting in negative health status and adverse financial consequences;

CONTINUATION SHEET

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5) barriers to accessing care & role of safety net primary care providers- ex. #1 cause - cost, others range from language, transportation, hours, to availability of providers and that the role if the providers is to fill in this gap; and lastly,

6) different models of primary care safety net clinics - ex. Community health centers, federally qualified health center-look alike, rural , faith-based and indigent clinics.

Ms. Finnel then stood for questions which came from Senators Wagle, Barnett, Jordan, and Steineger, and Ms. Correll ranging from do you serve No-Questions-Asked and the undocumented, is there any way a doctor could access the drugs offered (ex. Chemo) or do they need to go through the clinic, do you give chemotherapy drugs, what can we as legislatures do to help grow this safety net, do you ever raise non-profit funds, overlapping, has the behavioral health clinic side been looked at, availability of data on the undocumented using the clinics/hospitals in Wichita to are you seeing any work related injuries or illnesses relating to types of low paying jobs (ex. Roofers making \$6.00/hr. working in August)?

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of January 15, 20, 21, and 22, distributed at the 1-27-04 Committee meeting were approved on Janury 30, 2004.

Adjournment

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The time was 2:25 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 3, 2004.