

Approved: 2-19-07

Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lana Gordon at 3:30 P.M. on February 8, 2007 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Gary Hayzlett- excused

Committee staff present:

Kathie Sparks, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Hank Avila, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Jason Long, Revisor of Statutes

Ann Deitcher, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Brad Smoot, Legis Counsel, Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Kansas and Wheatlands Administrative Services

John Campbell, General Counsel, Insurance Dept.

Steve Kelly, Commerce Dept.

Joan Wagon, Secretary, Dept. Of Revenue

Christy Caldwell, Topeka Chamber of Commerce

Others attending:

See attached list.

HB 2274 - relating to credits against premium taxes for investments in qualified business facilities.

Jason Long addressed the Committee in explanation of **HB 2274**.

Questions and answers followed.

Brad Smoot offered testimony in favor of **HB 2274**. (Attachment 1).

He also explained the history of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas (BCBSKS) and the creation of Wheatlands Administrative Services as a subsidiary of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas.

(Attachment 2).

Copies of written only testimony in support of **HB 2274** were distributed from Congressional members, Kansas Governor Kathleen Sebelius and various medical association officials. (Attachment 3).

Questions and answers followed.

John Campbell, representing State Insurance Commissioner, Sandy Praeger, appeared to urge the Committee's favorable action on **HB 2274**. (Attachment 4).

Steve Kelly addressed the Committee in support of **HB 2274**. He offered a copy of the Economic Impact of Financial Services Jobs as prepared by Paul F. Byrne, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Economics at Washburn University School of Business. (Attachment 5).

He also offered a summary of costs and benefits for all taxing units. (Attachment 6).

Secretary Wagon testified in favor of **HB 2274**. (No written testimony was provided).

Christy Caldwell appeared as a proponent of **HB 2274**. (Attachment 7).

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 12, 2007.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Economic Development and Tourism Committee at 3:30 P.M. on February 8, 2007 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.