

Approved: March 14, 2005

Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jim Morrison at 1:39 P.M. on March 10, 2005, in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

Committee members absent:

Representative Don Hill- excused
Representative Jason Watkins- excused
Representative Peggy Mast- excused

Committee staff present:

Melissa Calderwood, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Mary Galligan, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Rena Jefferies, Revisor of Statutes' Office
Gary Deeter, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Larry Williamson, Executive Director, Kansas Dental Board
Kevin Robertson, Executive Director, Kansas Dental Association

Others attending:

See attached list.

The minutes for the March 9, 2005, meeting were approved.

The Chair opened the hearing on [SB 91](#) and welcomed Larry Williamson, Executive Director, Kansas Dental Board, who said the proposed legislation was introduced at the request of the Kansas Dental Board. ([Attachment 1](#)) Noting that the financial status of the Board will be dire without the bill, especially in view of a 16% cut under the Governor's budget recommendations, he said the bill will ensure extended financial stability through FY 2011 for the Board by raising the statutory ceiling on fees collected by the Board. He further explained that an amendment added by the Senate committee addresses a relatively new methodology for the delivery of dental services—mobile and portable dental operations—to the place-bound, underprivileged, and underserved.

Kevin Robertson, Executive Director, Kansas Dental Association, spoke in favor of the bill. ([Attachment 2](#)) He said there were two separate issues addressed by the bill, the first that of raising the statutory cap on fees, an action which the Association supports. He agreed that the second issue, mobile dentistry, is proper for Board oversight. However, he expressed concern that the new language on mobile clinics might create problems for the Association's Kansas Mission of Mercy (KMOM), a KDA-sponsored dental charity clinic that, two weeks ago in Salina, provided free dental care to 2325 patients, a service worth \$1.1 million in dental care. He suggested amendments that would exempt from the bill dentists, dental hygienists, and any not-for-profit organization providing dental services under [K.S.A. 75-6102](#). He then gave a brief orientation of what KMOM has done in the past two years.

CONTINUATION SHEET

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Answering questions from members, Mr. Williamson said that the Kansas Dental Board has not been a target of any legislative fee-fund sweep, further noting that, of the fees collected, 80% goes to the Board and 20% is sent to the State General Fund. He replied that raising the cap on fees will enable the Board to meet the current budget and to provide additional investigative services that are needed. Regarding mobile dentistry, he said anyone practicing dentistry must have a license and that the new delivery system provides wider delivery of services to the underserved; however, he noted certain risks, such as possible lapses in cleanliness, the potential for abuse, less efficient record keeping, and—with aged and children—the potential inability to accept or decline services.

Several members complimented Mr. Robertson on the KMOM service to indigent Kansans. Answering a question, Mr. Robertson said that Colorado, Nebraska, and Iowa are planning or have scheduled a similar service based on Kansas' experience.

The Chair closed the hearing on **SB 91**.

Staff provided a briefing on two bills:

HB 2496 would amend the Occupational Therapy Practice Act, changing the definition of the practice of occupational therapy to allow physician assistants, advanced registered nurse practitioners, and licensed chiropractors to make referrals to occupational therapists.

SCR 5011 provides a means for the legislature to express its support for family caregivers through the Kansas Department on Aging's family caregiver support programs.

The chair opened discussion on **SB 183**.

A motion was made and seconded to recommend the bill as favorable for passage. The motion passed unanimously.

The chair opened discussion on **SCR 1604**.

A member requested delay until Monday to determine how to blend similar bills, which was granted by the Chair.

The Chair opened discussion on **SB 91**.

A motion was made and seconded to attach the Kansas Dental Association amendments to **SB 91**. The motion passed.

A motion was made and seconded to recommend **SB 91** as amended to be favorable for passage. The motion passed unanimously.

CONTINUATION SHEET

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The meeting was adjourned at 2:29 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 14, 2005.