

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE AGING & LONG-TERM CARE COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bob Bethell at 9:05 am. on February 10, 2011, in Room 144-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except :

Representative Scott Schwab - absent

Committee staff present:

Katherine McBride, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Iraida Orr, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Craig Callahan, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Evelyn Walters, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Joe Ewert, Kansas Association of Homes and Services for the Aging
Craig Kaberline, KS Area Agency on Aging Assn.
Mitzi McFatrigh, KS Advocates for Better Care
Belinda Vierthaler, Ombudsman
Nick Wood, Disability Rights Center
Pam Falk Smith, Medicalodges, Inc. representing KHCA/KCAL
Cindy Luxem, Kansas Health Care Association
Ernest Kutzley, AARP
M. Jean Krahn, KS Guardianship Program
Tom Lain, Interhab, Inc.

Others attending:

See attached list.

Hearing on:

HB 2108 – Transfer of duties and functions of Department of SRS concerning adult protective services to the office of Attorney General

Katherine McBride, Office of the Revisor of Statutes, reviewed the bill contents.

Proponents:

Joe Ewert, Kansas Association of Homes and Services for the Aging spoke in support of the bill (Attachment 1). Questions were asked by Rep. Weber, Rep. Otto and Chairman Bethell.
Mitzi McFatrigh, KS Advocates for Better Care, spoke in support of the bill (Attachment 2). Questions were asked by Representative Moore and Chairman Bethell.
Belinda Vierthaler, Ombudsman, spoke in support of the bill. (Attachment 3). A question was asked by Chairman Bethell.
Craig Kaberline, Executive Director, KS Area Agency on Aging Assn., spoke in cautious support of this bill due to funding needed. (Attachment 4). A question was asked by Chairman Bethell.
Written testimony in support of the bill was also provided by Nick Wood, Disability Rights Center, (Attachment 5). Pam Falk Smith, Medicalodges, Inc. representing KHCA/KCAL (Attachment 6). Ernest Kutzley, AARP, (Attachment 7). Cindy Luxem, Kansas Health Care Assn, (Attachment 8).

Neutral:

M. Jean Krahn, Kansas Guardianship Program, testified. (Attachment 9). No questions were asked.
Tom Laing, Interhab, Inc. testified. (Attachment 10). A question was asked by Rep. Worley.

No other conferees on **HB 2108**.

Chairman Bethell invited Secretary Sullivan, Department of Aging, to introduce himself and make comments from his previous experience. Secretary Sullivan made comments on what priorities his Department is working on. Secretary Sullivan commented on his APS experiences from previous administrator's experiences which ranged from positive when dealing with the abuse or neglect to get

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the House Aging & Long Term Care Committee at 9:00 am on February 10, 2011, in Room 144-S of the Capitol.

guardianship for individuals and frustrations usually occurring when dealing with the financial exploitations.

Chairman Bethell called on Gary Haulmark, Legislative Director of SRS and Ms. Bobbi Mariani, Director of Economic and Employment Support of SRS to give update on the frustrations when dealing with the registry for abusers and how providers could get access to the registry before hiring. Mr. Haulmark commented that they have met several times and referred to Ms. Mariani to provide the specifics of the new policy that went into effect immediately this week. They provided a handout of material being mailed to all providers covered under statute 65-6204 to resolve the access to the registry issue. (Attachment 11). A question was raised by Rep. Hill. Mr. Haulmark responded that everything the department does was going to go under review and findings would be made known to the committee.

Chairman Bethell closed the hearing.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 15, 2011.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:04 am.