

Approved: March 27, 2012

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Vicki Schmidt at 1:30 p.m. on March 14, 2012, in Room 546-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Nobuko Folmsbee, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Renaë Jefferies, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Iraida Orr, Legislative Research
Melissa Calderwood, Legislative Research
Carolyn Long, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Douglas Parham, President, Kansas Speech-Language-Hearing Association
Julie H. Gatts, Chair, Speech-Language Pathology/Audiology Advisory Board
Aaron Dunkel, Department of Health

Others attending:

See attached list.

The Chair opened the hearing on **Substitute HB 2659---transfer of licensing of speech-language pathologist.** This legislation moves the licensing and regulation of speech-language pathologist and audiologists from the Department of Health and Environment to the Department of Aging. A technical amendment changing the definition of “sponsor” from secretary of health and environment to secretary of aging is necessary until the ERO becomes effective.

Douglas Parham, Kansas Speech-Language-Hearing Association noted that his organization advocates for persons with communication and related disorders, and they represent the professional interests of Kansans speech-language pathologists and audiologists, regardless of whether they are members of his organization. They support the legislation as it provides appropriate licensure oversight for their professions and currently they do not have representation on the Board of Healing Arts. They recommend changing the successive two-year terms from two to three (Attachment #1).

Written testimony in favor of the bill was also presented by Julie H. Gatts, Chair of the Speech-Language Pathology/Audiology Advisory Board (Attachment #2) and Deputy Secretary Aaron Dunkel, Kansas Department of Health and Environment (Attachment #3).

The Chair closed the hearing on **Substitute HB 2659** and called for final action on **Substitute HB 2659.** *It was moved by Senator Brungardt, seconded by Senator Reitz to accept both balloon amendments. Motion passed. It was further moved by Senator Brungardt, seconded by Senator Reitz to move favorably for passage Substitute HB 2659 as amended. Motion carried.*

CONTINUATION SHEET

The minutes of the Public Health and Welfare Committee at 1:30 p.m. on March 14, 2012, in Room 546-S of the Capitol.

The Chair called for final action on **HB 2416—transfer of powers and duties of Kansas Health Policy Authority**. This bill would update the statutes to correct references after ERO 38 becomes effective by moving the Kansas Health Policy Authority into the Division of Health Care Finance within the Department of Health and Environment. Senator Huntington moved the technical amendments be adopted, seconded by Senator Brungardt. Motion passed. It was further moved by Senator Huntington, seconded by Senator Reitz to move favorably for passage HB 2416 as amended. Motion carried.

Final Action was called for on **HB 2471—regarding the board of adult care home administrators**. An amendment to insert “or the successor of such entity” be added after Kansas on page one, line 35. Senator Kelly moved the amendment, Senator Reitz seconded. The amendment passed. On page two, line 32, Senator Kelly proposed amending board terms to three years with a limit of two consecutive terms. Senator Kelly moved the amendment, Senator Brungardt seconded. Motion carried. It was further proposed to add additional language that should any board member have a published disciplinary action against them, they can no longer continue on the Board. It was moved by Senator Kelly, seconded by Senator Brungardt that language be inserted to reflect the amended language. Motion passed. It was moved by Senator Brungardt, seconded by Senator Reitz that HB 2471 be moved out favorably for passage as amended. Motion carried with Senator Haley abstaining.

The Chair called for final action on **HB 2631—dental care availability and access**. Kevin Robertson, representing the Kansas Dental Association, said that the proposed balloon amendment was simply clean-up language and also contained the provision that allowed additional time following the date of death or substantial disability of a dentist, to provide service to patients until the practice could be sold or closed.

Senator Kelly addressed the proposed amendment on page six, stating that she is concerned that there is no language which would ensure any follow-up to the palliative treatment received. It was the opinion of Senator Pilcher-Cook that this was a good amendment and if it went any further that perhaps dentists would choose not to participate.

It was moved by Senator Brungardt, moved by Senator Steineger to accept the amendment to Section 1. Motion carried. It was further moved by Senator Pilcher-Cook, seconded by Senator Huntington, to accept the balloon amendment on page six. Motion carried. It was then moved by Senator Pilcher-Cook, seconded by Senator Huntington that HB 2631, as amended, be passed out favorably for passage. Motion carried with Senator Kelly voicing a no vote.

CONTINUATION SHEET

The minutes of the Public Health and Welfare Committee at 1:30 p.m. on March 14, 2012, in Room 546-S of the Capitol.

HB 2660—licensure of maternity centers and child care facilities was opened for final action. Senator Haley offered an amendment that would provide emergency contraception at a medical care facility to a victim of a sexual offense. Senator Pilcher-Cook said that this amendment was heard in Judiciary and that it contained a lot of problems. She also stated that the Center for Domestic Violence was in opposition. *It was moved by Senator Haley, seconded by Senator Steineger to move the amendment. Motion failed.*

Returning to the bill, *Senator Kelly moved to adopt the proposed amendments, seconded by Senator Steineger. Motion passed.*

Senator Pilcher-Cook offered an amendment relating to the modification and suspension of licenses which affect the health or safety of children in the child care facility. *Motion by Senator Pilcher-Cook, seconded by Senator Kelsey. Motion failed. It was moved by Senator Kelly, seconded by Senator Reitz that **HB 2660** be passed out favorably as amended. Motion carried.*

The next meeting is scheduled for March 15, 2012.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

