

Approved: May 22, 2012

(Date)

MINUTES OF THE SENATE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Carolyn McGinn at 10:32 a.m. on May 7, 2012, in 548-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except Senator Taddiken was absent and Senator Masterson, who was excused.

Committee staff present:

Jan Lunn, Committee Assistant
Melinda Gaul, Chief of Staff, Senator McGinn's Office
Eli Johns, Intern, Senator McGinn's Office
J. G. Scott, Chief Fiscal Analyst, Legislative Research Department
Michael Steiner, Senior Analyst, Legislative Research Department
Bobbi Mariani, Fiscal Analyst, Legislative Research Department
Jill Wolters, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
David Wiese, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Daniel Yoza, Office of the Revisor of Statutes

Conferees:

Mark Dugan, Office of the Lieutenant Governor
Pat Jonas, Cerebral Palsy Research Foundation
Representative Mike Burgess
Ivan Weichart, State Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Coordinator, Department of Administration
Duncan Friend, Office of the Chief Information Technology Officer, Executive Branch

Bill introduction:

Senator Schmidt moved introduction of 12rs2543 concerning fiscal notes for Constitutional amendments; Senator Umbarger seconded the motion, which carried on a voice vote.

Continued discussion on **SB 444--Relating to employment of disabled individuals and competitive bids for state contracts**

Pat Jonas, Executive Director, of the Cerebral Palsy Research Foundation (CPRF), prefaced continuing discussion by commenting **SB 444** was derived from a federal effort to move

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individuals with disabilities (who want to work) out of public assistance; however, without incentive from the private sector, many potential employers will not hire those with disabilities.

Mr. Jonas indicated information from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) demonstrates the cost (per individual) to the state for various waiver services:

- Physical disability (PD) waiver services at \$29,000;
- Developmental disability (DD) waiver services at \$45,000; and
- Traumatic brain injury (TBI) waiver services at \$44,000.

Approximately, \$10,000 of the above costs includes medical expenditures. The critical piece in **SB 444** is the criterion for certified businesses to ensure that the employee works enough hours for health insurance eligibility. He discussed the Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) benefit threshold and noted the importance of earning enough to offset any loss of SSDI benefits. Mr. Jonas mentioned that through the Working Healthy Program in Kansas, some methods exist that allows retention of some benefits.

Mr. Jonas commented that at CPRF, health insurance premiums are approximately \$19,000 per year for a family policy and \$6,000 for a single policy (of which the employee pays 25 percent). In response to a question concerning how much each employee would need to earn for the benefit to outweigh any costs, Mr. Jonas indicated that approximately \$9-\$10 per hour would be considered the minimum average earned wage necessary for a successful program. Further discussion was heard regarding the differences between this program and Working Healthy Program. (Attachment 1)

Ms. McBride, Office of the Revisor of Statutes, distributed and reviewed an amendment (Attachment 2), which was drafted following concerns expressed on May 3. Committee members reviewed the amendment and offered additional suggestions relating to reporting requirements, reporting dates, agency accountability, terminology used within the bill, quantification of savings and data collection, and evaluation of program success.

Mike Donnelly, Director of Rehabilitation Services, Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services, confirmed that **SB 444** does not violate the American with Disabilities Act because there is no provision for a sub-minimum wage.

Following discussion, Senator Vratil recommended that the Revisor prepare a balloon amendment containing the revisions discussed and that the Revisor work with Senators Francisco

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and Kelly concerning specific language for consideration. Additionally, Senator Huntington suggested a technical amendment.

A committee member inquired whether the program was appropriated; Chairperson McGinn indicated \$500,000 had been requested for the pilot program and could be included in the House Appropriations and Senate Ways and Means Conference Committee Report.

Chairperson McGinn indicated further discussion concerning **SB 444** will be scheduled at a subsequent meeting.

Possible final action on **HB 2650 - Establishing the office of information technology services and the executive chief information technology officer; powers and duties**

Daniel Yoza, Office of the Revisor of Statutes, provided a brief summary of **HB 2650**.

Representative Mike Burgess, a proponent of **HB 2650**, introduced Ivan Weichart, State Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Coordinator, Department of Administration, who described portions in the bill relating to the establishment of GIS Policy Board as well as the establishment of the Office of Information Technology Services (OTIS), which replaces the Division of Information Services and Communication (DISC). He indicated one of the purposes of **HB 2650** is to encourage the use of one version of mapping to ensure that all data collected and distributed is authenticated. Mr. Weichart reported that Sedgwick County is a valuable contributor in GIS application technology and represents a standard to be modeled by other Kansas counties. Mr. Weichart indicated that while the GIS project statewide has been underfunded across state agencies, it remains a priority in his office.

A committee member asked Mr. Weichart to provide a summary of information concerning the importance of **HB 2650** and what advantage or benefit would come to the state, and whether funding is included in the bill. Mr. Weichart responded:

- Funding is excluded from the bill. It is his hoped that a funding outcome would be realized as a result of the one-map strategy contained in **HB 2650**.
- GIS strategies can reduce costs across agencies and increase efficiencies as demonstrated by the purchase of GIS technology that resulted in a \$100,000 savings across Kansas agencies.
- One-map strategy produces data that is trustworthy and that can be shared among statewide agencies and private sector businesses.

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A committee member suggested an amendment (page 4, line 14) concerning reimbursement to GIS board members who represent city and county government.

Chairperson McGinn closed the hearing on **HB 2650** and adjourned the meeting at 11:33 a.m.

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