

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Jim Morrison at 1:30 p.m. on January 22, 2003 in Room 243-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except Representatives Phelps, Schwab, Landwehr, and Long, all of whom were excused.

Committee staff present:

Bill Wolff, Legislative Research Department
Rena Jefferies, Revisor of Statutes' Office
Gary Deeter, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: None.

Others attending: See Attached List.

The Chair outlined committee procedures and a long-range vision for the work of the Committee. Regarding the use of information technology, he said that those members who owned laptops were encouraged to use them during committee meetings, enabling rapid exchange of information through a committee room network. For those without laptop resources, paper copies will be provided.

The chair briefly outlined the process by which an idea becomes law, focusing specifically on the committee process of bill introduction, hearing, and committee action. Under the rubric "...plays well with others and shares," he encouraged members to work together. He then delineated two principles:

- Logic is important, since the presenting issue may have underlying ramifications;
- Discussion is important in order to explore all facets of an issue. To that end, the Chair said he will assign sub-committees and member-leaders to clarify various aspects of a given subject and allow members to gain greater understand and consensus.

The Chair recognized Representative Flaharty, who requested a bill (last year's **HB 2678**) to provide standards for health care quality that allow individuals to participate in clinical trials without jeopardizing their insurance coverage. (Attachment 1) Representative Sharp noted that a similar bill passed the Missouri legislature last year and has become popular nationwide. A motion was properly made and seconded to introduce this as a committee bill. Representatives Flaharty and Sharp were assigned as lead members for the bill. Staff suggested that the bill might be considered by the Insurance Committee first. The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. in 243-N on January 23, 2003.