

Approved: Feb. 8, 1993
Date ad

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Joann Flower at 1:30 p.m. on February 4, 1993 in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present:

William Wolff, Legislative Research Department

Sue Hill, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Steve Paige, Director of Environmental Health Services, Department of Health/Environment

John Cotter, Director of Environmental Health Services, Wyandotte County Health Dept.

George Puckett, Kansas Restaurant and Hospitality Association

Frances Kastner, Director Governmental Affairs, Kansas Food Dealers Association

Cathy Rooney, Director Health Occupations Credentialing Unit, Bureau of Adult/Child Care
Department of Health and Environment

Pat Kissick, Kansas Professional Nursing Home Administrators Association

John Kiefhaber, Executive Vice President, Kansas Health Care Association

Others attending: See attached list

Chairperson Flower called the meeting to order noting there are two sets of minutes available. At the close of the meeting today a motion will be in order for those minutes.

Chair requested a staff briefing on HB2118.

Dr. Bill Wolff gave a detailed explanation of HB2118, drawing attention to changes in fees; deletions and additions of language proposed. He answered questions.

Mr. Steve Paige, Department of Health and Environment offered hand out (Attachment No.1), stating passage of HB2118 would increase the license for food service establishments from \$40 to \$100 per year. The law requires food service establishments pay license fees to the Secretary of Health and Environment, and requires that fee revenues defray the cost of the inspection and licensure program. In addition to increasing fee limits for food service license fees, HB2118 proposes removing requirements for annual inspections of lodging establishments. He detailed rationale for requesting this legislation.

Mr. John Cotter, Wyandotte County Health Department offered hand out (Attachment No.2) and stated he appears before Committee in behalf of the Kansas Association of Sanitarians who support the proposed annual license fee increase for food service establishments. In his view the number of state inspectors is inadequate. The goal of this program is to prevent food borne illnesses and injuries associated with food service establishments. They encourage an annual license fee of \$100 for all food service establishments as a means of providing additional funding which could be used to hire and train more food inspectors. He drew attention to a letter from Finney County Health Department indicating support of HB 2118.

George Puckett, representing Kansas Restaurant and Hospitality Association (KRHA) offered hand out (Attachment No.3) and noted the KRHA does not object to proposed changes in HB2118 including the increased annual fee. He noted eventually, reasonable and periodic adjustments might be necessary, and noted it has been 10 years since a fee increase for this license. He suggested consideration of updating the Application fee which is not a part of the proposed changes in (HB2118), i.e., on page 2, lines 2-5. This Application fee currently is \$100, and perhaps could be increased slightly.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE, Room 423-S
Statehouse, at 1:30 p.m. on February 4, 1993.

Frances Kastner, Director of Kansas Food Dealers Association offered hand out (Attachment No.4) stated retailers see fees as a hidden tax, and therefore the expense of fees are passed on to the consumer. She detailed all the various taxes that are required for a grocery store owner. She noted the State Food Service Establishment Fund will receive none of the increases realized from the increased tax proposed in HB2118 since since 20% of all fees are transferred to the State General Fund for Administrative purposes. She thanked members for the opportunity to share her concerns.

Numerous questions were asked, i.e., inspections are an ongoing process; Kansas averages 1.7 inspections per establishment, per year; the average number of inspections of establishments for 11 other states is 232 establishments versus 824 inspections of establishments for Kansas inspectors. Many inspections done in Sedgwick County are contracted out to the Local Health department; the fee of \$100 is about the middle of the fee range charged in other states. Mr. Paige outlined the procedures an inspector goes through during an inspection. An inspection done on a complaint is done within a 24-hour turn around, others are done on a priority basis, i.e., foodborne illness complaints, new establishments, change in ownership, and routine inspections. There is very little problem with lodging establishments which has lead to the change in the inspections of lodging facilities. There is no smaller fee charged for a smaller establishment that may sell only donuts and coffee than for an establishment that sells a large line of food; Mr. Paige noted high costs of fines when a business is shut down, noting the inspection fee charged is only \$100 so this is really the best liability a food establishment business can buy.

HEARINGS CLOSED ON HB2110.
HEARINGS BEGAN ON HB2118.

Chair noted, in the interest of time, a staff briefing would be deferred today, however, after testimony is given if members have questions of staff, Dr. Wolff would oblige.

Cathy Rooney, Director of Health Occupations Credentialing Unit, offered hand out (Attachment No. 5) gave rationale for HB2110 i.e., the bill is being sought to allow for the establishment, collection, and processing of fees to cover the administrative cost of the program, and to establish reinstatement and endorsement processes that are consistent with other licensure programs in Kansas and other states. She gave a comprehensive explanation of each of the proposed amendments, and urged passage as written.

Pat Kissick, Kansas Professional Nursing Home Administrators Association, offered hand out (Attachment No.6) and drew attention to page 2, lines 19-34, specifically lines 22-23 regarding the amount of licensure fees. She noted fees for nursing home administrators are at the top of the range at the present time. A fee of \$100 should be more than adequate for licensing and credentialing this profession. She noted many nursing home administrators in the state run small community-based facilities and a fee increase would be an additional hardship on an industry already being hammered from every side with increased costs. She requested language changes in HB2110 on page 2, lines 19-23 be removed, page two lines 33 & 34 retain the original language, and page 3, line 19 retain the original language.

John Kiefhaber, Executive Vice President, Kansas Health Care Association offered hand out (Attachment No.7) explained HB2110 would allow nursing home administrators' licensing fees to be set in regulation directly by the Board of Adult Care Home Administrators, instead of leaving the amount of the fee in statute where it can be controlled by legislative authority. Kansas Health Care Association opposes this idea.

Members asked questions of all three conferees, i.e., Ms. Kessick when asked by a member, since they didn't approve of changes proposed, did they wish HB2110 changed or killed, and she he replied killed. It was noted acute care home administrators aren't licensed, adult care home administrators are, indicating inequity. It was noted that the fee increases are the first requested since 1970. It was noted a licensee is issued a reprimand for failure to report.

There was a discussion in regard to the Board of Healing Arts becoming the licensing agency for the Nursing Home Administrators. Mr. Buening had been requested by Rep. Wells to attend and be available for questions if necessary. Rep. Wells publicly thanked Mr. Buening for attending at her request.

HEARINGS CLOSED ON HB 2108.

Chair drew attention to Committee minutes for February 1, February 2. Rep. Samuelson moved to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Rep. Freeborn. Motion carried.

Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:00.

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 8, 1993.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 8, 1993.

HOUSE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

DATE Feb 4, 93

[illegible]

State of Kansas
Joan Finney, Governor



Department of Health and Environment

Robert C. Harder, Secretary

Reply to:

Testimony presented to
House Public Health and Welfare Committee

by

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment

House Bill 2118

K.S.A. 36-503 requires food service establishments to pay license fees to the Secretary, Kansas Department of Health and Environment. The law also requires that fee revenues defray the cost of the inspection and licensure program. Passage of House Bill 2118 would increase the food service establishment license fee limit from \$40 to \$100 per year.

The KDHE annually collects approximately \$660,000 in food service establishment fees. The actual license fee amounts are established by administrative regulation as authorized by K.S.A. 36-503. Currently, all food service establishments pay an annual license of \$40. Passage of HB 2118 will allow the Secretary to amend K.A.R. 28-36-30 allowing collection fee revenues in an amount necessary to pay costs of the inspection and licensure program.

Approximately \$225,000 are paid annually to local agencies conducting inspections under contract with the Secretary. The balance of fee revenues are credited to the State General Fund. The annual cost of the inspection and licensure program is approximately \$650,000 based on the KDHE's proposed FY 94 budget request. An increase in license fees from the current \$40 per establishment to \$70 per establishment is needed to defray the cost of the inspection and licensure program as mandated by K.S.A. 36-503. The \$30 increase in fees would generate an estimated \$360,000 in additional revenue to be shared between the SGF and local agencies. The local agencies share is estimated at \$122,000 annually with \$238,000 to the SGF. Contracting counties are reimbursed at a rate equal to 80 percent of license fee revenues collected in their respective jurisdictions.

In addition to increasing fee limits for food service license fees, House Bill 2118 also proposes removing the requirement for annual inspections of lodging establishments. It has been our experience that the lodging industry has responded very well to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment standards in the last 10 years. As a result, our inspections find that lodging establishments are routinely in compliance with applicable standards. Continued routine inspections of facilities consistently found to be in compliance are considered by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment a poor use of scarce resources. Time spent inspecting facilities consistently in compliance could be used more wisely if directed toward inspecting facilities found to be chronically noncompliant.

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment recommends favorable consideration of House Bill 2118.

Testimony presented by:

Stephen N. Paige
Director
Bureau of Environmental Health Services
Division of Health
February 4, 1993

PHC
2-4-93
Attn #1.

TESTIMONY FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 2118

By Committee on Public Health and Welfare

Joann Flower, Chairperson

February 4, 1993 - 1:30 P.M. - Rm 423S

Good afternoon. My name is John Cotter and I am the Director of Environmental Health Services for the Wyandotte County Health Department. I appear before you this afternoon in behalf of the Kansas Association of Sanitarians.

The Kansas Association of Sanitarians supports the proposed annual license fee increase for food service establishments. Presently the license fee is \$40.00 per year. House Bill No. 2118 is proposing to increase the license fee limit to a maximum of \$100.00 per year and shall be fixed in a amount which, together with the one-time application fee (presently \$90.00), is sufficient to defray the cost of administering the food service establishment inspection and license activities.

Presently, the number of state inspectors is inadequate to make the necessary inspections and investigations as well as to provide appropriate assistance to the county employees who inspect under State contract. The Food and Drug Administration recommends no more than 250-350 establishments per inspector in order to maintain an acceptable sanitation rating. Each state inspector presently handles approximately 800 establishments. It is impossible for these inspectors to spend enough time in the restaurants to effectively educate and train food service personnel.

The food program is very important to Kansas. Unfortunately, the program has become more reactive than proactive because of the unreasonable workload levels. The old adage that an ounce of prevention is worth more than a pound of cure is especially true when it comes to food sanitation. The goal of this program is to prevent foodborne illnesses and injuries associated with food service establishments.

In closing, the Kansas Association of Sanitarians encourages an annual license fee of \$100.00 for all food service establishments as a means of providing additional funding. These additional funds would be used to hire and train more food inspectors.

Also, I have attached a letter from Marilyn Peterson of Finney County Health Department stating the Kansas Association of Local Health Departments, Kansas Public Health Association and the Kansas Association of Sanitarians all agreed during the January 27, 1993 meeting that an increase in license fees is greatly needed.

That concludes my official presentation. With the Chairperson's approval, I would be glad to answer any questions.

Attachment

PHW
2-4-93
attm #2

FINNEY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

"We Care About Your Health"

919 Zerr Road * Phone 316-272-3600 * Garden City, Kansas 67848

February 3, 1993

John Cotter
Wyandotte County Health Department
619 Ann Avenue
Kansas City, KS 66101

RE: H.B. 2118

Please support H.B. 2118 to allow an increase in licensing fees for food service establishments. At the January 27, 1993 meeting of Kansas Association of Local Health Departments, Kansas Public Health Association and the Kansas Association of Sanitarians, it was agreed an increase in licensing fees would provide much needed increase in revenues without creating undue hardship on these establishments. There is one staff person to provide food service establishment inspections and complaint investigation for all of Southwest Kansas. There is a critical need for increased revenue.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Peterson

Marilyn Peterson
Administrator

PHW
2-4-93
Attn #2
Pg 272



KANSAS RESTAURANT AND HOSPITALITY ASSOCIATION

359 SOUTH HYDRAULIC • P.O. BOX 235 • WICHITA, KANSAS 67201 • (316) 267-8383 • FAX (316) 267-8400

neutral

My name is George Puckett, and I represent the Kansas Restaurant and Hospitality Association, a group of approximately 750 foodservice and hospitality industry businesses in Kansas.

KRHA does not object to the proposed changes in HB2118, including that which would propose any reasonable increase in the maximum annual license fees allowable. While KRHA is not seeking to find ways to increase expenses, or the difficulties of doing day to day business for its members, we realize there comes a time when reasonable and periodic adjustments might be necessary in matters such as our annual licensing fee. We also understand there has not been an increase in the annual fee for more than ten years. KRHA realizes this will help assure the continued and necessary services of the Department for our members and their customers.

Therefore, the Kansas Restaurant and Hospitality Association would ask that the proposed license fee increase be a policy making decision by the legislature based on the information submitted by the secretary of health and environment. (I personally would also like to make a suggestion that the committee might consider updating the Application Fee which is not a part of the proposed changes in HB2118.) (Page 2, Lines 2-5). It currently costs \$100 to apply for a foodservice license. This fee might be increased slightly as a consideration of the committee in order to help keep annual licensing fees the very lowest possible for our foodservice and hospitality industry operators. Thank you.

PHW
2-3-93
Attn #3



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
JIM SHEEHAN
Shawnee Mission

February 4, 1993

OFFICERS

House Public Health & Welfare Comm.

OPPOSING HB 2118

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Carbondale

1st VICE-PRESIDENT
MIKE BRAXMEYER
Atwood

2nd VICE-PRESIDENT
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DIRECTOR OF
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

FRANCES KASTNER

Madam Chair, and members of the Committee, I am Frances Kastner, Director of the Kansas Food Dealers Association. Our members include wholesalers, distributors and retailers of food products throughout Kansas.

Over the years we have seen increases in not only the number of licenses grocers need in order to operate their business, but also the constant increase in the amount of those fees after they are established. If the maximum allowed in HB 2118 is \$100, we have little doubt that the State Food Service License fee will become \$100. Retailers see fees as a hidden tax. Of course it is a cost of doing business, and that cost has to be passed on to the consumer.

Information on licenses received from a Topeka grocery store include: State Food Service License \$40; Shawnee County Food Service License \$30; Selling non-prescription drugs requires a Pharmacy License of \$20; cigarette license is \$12; a city license to stay open after midnight is \$25. If the store sells cereal malt beverages, they pay a local CMB license of \$125, a State Fee of \$25, and need a Federal CMB license costing \$250.

Last year, we took a survey and found most of our members in the larger counties pay the State Food Service Establishment License at \$40, and a County or City Food Service License fee of at least \$30. The Topeka store referred to above is inspected by the Shawnee County Health Department which receives 80% of the \$40 state license fee. Adding that to County's fee of \$30, it totals \$62 for the inspection of a food service establishment. Some local city or county fees are much higher than the \$30 paid in Topeka.

If the same 80% is allowed for inspections done by the Shawnee County Health Department, the State Food Service Establishment Fund will get none of the increase, no matter how much it is, since 20% of all fees are transferred to the State General Fund for Administrative purposes.

I appreciate the opportunity of sharing our concerns with you, and urge you to NOT consider HB 2118 favorably.

Frances Kastner
Frances Kastner, Director
Governmental Affairs, KFDA

PHW
attm # 4
2-4-3



Department of Health and Environment

Robert C. Harder, Secretary

Reply to:

TESTIMONY PRESENTED TO

THE HOUSE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

by

THE BOARD OF ADULT CARE HOME ADMINISTRATORS

and

THE KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

House Bill 2110

The Board of Adult Care Home Administrators and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment are responsible for administering the Kansas adult care home administrators' licensing program (KSA 65-3501 et seq.). There are approximately 800 persons licensed as adult care home administrators. This bill is being sought to allow for the establishment, collection, and processing of fees to cover the administrative cost of the program, and to establish reinstatement and endorsement processes that are consistent with other licensure programs in Kansas and across the nation.

The specific amendments made by House Bill 2110 to meet these objectives are as follows:


- 1 Section 1, page one, lines 25-26, grants specific statutory authority for the temporary license fee to be fixed by rules and regulations adopted by the Board of Adult Care Home Administrators;
- 2 Section 2, page two, lines 19-28, lists the different fees established in the licensing act, requires these fees to be fixed in rules and regulations to cover the administration costs of the program, and establishes the fee remittance, deposit, and credit process;

(OVER)

PAW 5
attn #
2-4-93

- ✓ 3 Section 3, page two, lines 31-32, requires the applicant to pay a license fee and the examination fee, if required, to the Secretary of Health and Environment thus allowing the fees to be separated;
- ✓ 4 Section 3, page two, line 34, removes the maximum cap on the license and/or examination fees. Legislative oversight will occur during the promulgation process for rules and regulations rather than statutorily. (Section 4(b), page 3, line 19, removes the maximum cap on the renewal fee as well);
- ✓ 5 Section 4(b), page three, lines 23-30, determines that to renew a license within 30 days following its expiration requires a late renewal fee; that a license expired for 31 or more days is considered lapsed, and will require reinstatement prior to renewal;
- 6 Section 4(d), page three, lines 40-42, requires submission of a renewal fee and reinstatement fee when reinstating (currently only a reinstatement fee is required); and
- 7 Section 4(e), pages three and four, allows endorsement of training received by applicants outside the State of Kansas and requires that a reciprocity fee and license fee be paid for persons seeking reciprocity from another state or endorsement of out-of-state training (currently only a reciprocity fee is required).

These changes are consistent with other licensure statutes and legislative directive to move toward encumbering the cost of the program through fees.

 The Board and the Department recommend the passage of House Bill 2110 as written.

Presented by: Cathy Rooney, Director
Health Occupations Credentialing Unit
Bureau of Adult and Child Care
February 4, 1993

PH/LO
attn #5
2-4-93
Pg 272.

**KANSAS PROFESSIONAL NURSING HOME
ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION**

3601 West 29th
Topeka, Kansas 66614
Phone: 913-273-4393



TO: Public Health & Welfare Committee

RE: House Bill 2110

In reference to House Bill 2110, I would respectfully ask that this committee review the language of Lines 19 through 34 of page 2, specifically lines 22 & 23 addressing the amount of the licensure fees for nursing home administrators.

In reviewing the fees and continuing education hours required by other health care professionals in our state, I think you will find that the fees for nursing home administrators are at the top of the range at the present time. Minutes of the September 18, 1992 (attachment I), meeting of the Board of Adult Care Home Administrators reflect changes in KAR 28-38-23(b) which changes the renewal fee from \$50.00 to \$100.00 and the late fee from \$25.00 to \$50.00. In addition, KAR 28-38-23(i) adds reinstatement and renewal fees for reinstatement of license. (A \$120.00 fee.) We feel that the limit of \$100 should be more than adequate for licensing and credentialing of our profession. As you can see from the attached data sheet, the Board of Healing Arts charges \$30.00 for licensing Occupational Therapists and Physical Therapists for two years and with a continuing education requirement of 40 hours. Physicians have a licensure fee of \$150 with a requirement of 150 hours of continuing education every three years. The Board of Nursing charges \$40. and requires 30 hours of continuing education every two years, etc. (Attachment II).

Many nursing home administrators in the State of Kansas run small community-based facilities. An increased fee would be an additional hardship on an industry being hammered from every side with increased costs. This fact, coupled with the cost of accumulating 60 hours of continuing education, makes it extremely costly for nursing home administrators to maintain their professional licenses.

We feel it is not a good management practice to give any agency or department a blank check in determining the amount that can be charged to any one group. We are a very small group and with discussions about a freeze on bed construction

PAHLL
Attm # 6
2-4-3

and increased fees for licensure, our numbers are not likely to grow. Current figures indicate that approximately 100 licenses are not renewed every year with only 30-40 new licenses being issued.

In closing, we feel there is no precedent for raising the licensure fee for only one category of health care professional when that fee is already at the top of the range, nor is there a precedent for leaving the amount of such fees up to the discretion of the licensing agency.

We request that lines 19-23 (page 2) of HB 2110 be removed, that lines 33 & 34 (page 2) of HB 2110 retain the original language and that line 19, (page 3) of HB 2110 retain the original language.

Thank you for allowing us this opportunity to express our concerns on this House Bill #2110.

PHW
2-4-93
Allm #6
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- KAR 28-38-18. changes were made in sections (a), (b), (c), and (d) to clarify the language in these sections. A new section (c) was added to state the passing scores for national and state examinations. Sections (d), (e), and (f) have clean-up of language also.
- KAR 28-38-19(c)(2) clarifies training sites. This change reflects a policy statement that was previously approved by the board.
- KAR 28-38-19(e) defines qualifications of preceptors. This qualification was a policy statement previously approved by the board.
- KAR 28-38-19(f) clarifies disciplinary actions concerning preceptors. This regulation proposal also was a policy previously approved by the board.
- KAR 28-38-20(a) was moved from section (d) of 28-38-18 being more appropriate to this section. This allows candidates 30 days after date of examination to submit qualifying requirements for the licensure examination. KAR 28-38-20(d) allows an applicant two years to take and pass the national examination after submitting the original application and fee.
- KAR 28-38-20(e) requires that the applicant pay the examination fee directly to the testing agency.
- KAR 28-38-21(c) changes are for clarification of language.
- KAR 28-38-22 reflects changes in fees.
- KAR 28-38-23(b) reflects changes in renewal fee from \$50.00 to \$100.00 and late fee from \$25.00 to \$50.00.
- KAR 28-38-23(h) allows 7.5 clock hours of continuing education for preceptors. Old section (h) is deleted.
- KAR 28-38-23(i) adds reinstatement and renewal fees for reinstatement of license. The \$120.00 reinstatement fee is proposed as a change from \$100.00 as previously approved by the board.

Ms. Rooney pointed out that all the changes in the proposed regulations were previously approved by the board except KAR 28-38-17, 28-38-20, and 28-38-23(i). She asked the board to approve these changes as presented.

ACTION: Barbara Schroeder moved the board approve the changes in the proposed regulations as explained by Ms. Rooney. Sharon Durrell seconded the motion. It passed.

Ms. Rooney traced the movement of the proposed regulations through the various departments for approval and to the hearing process until the regulations become effective.

Preceptor Approvals and Examination Results

Pat Dismukes reported that 11 additional preceptors were approved in the past three months for a total of 90 throughout the state. Sixteen candidates took the July 1992 examination for licensure as adult care home administrators. Ten candidates passed and 16 candidates are signed up to take the October 1992 examination.

Other Business

Category	Fees	CEU's	Licensing Agency
Social Workers	\$90.00 BA(2 yrs) \$95.00 MA " \$100.00 Clinical	60 hrs (2 yrs)	Behavioral Sciences
Nurse	\$40.00 (2yrs)	30 hrs. (2 yrs)	Board of Nursing
Doctors	\$150.00 Annual	150 hrs. (3 yrs)	Board of Healing Arts
O.T. & P.T	\$30.00	40 hrs. (2 yrs)	Board of Healing Arts
Dieticians	\$135.00	15 hrs. (2 yrs)	Health & Environment
Pharmacy	\$75.00 Annual	15 hrs (annual)	Board of Pharmacy
Dentist	\$60.00 Annual	30 hrs (annual)	Kansas Dental Board
Administrators	\$100.00 (2 yrs.)	60 hrs	Department of Health & Environment

PHW
24-93
Allm #16
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KHCA

Member of
ahca

Kansas Health Care Association

221 SOUTHWEST 33rd STREET
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66611-2263
(913) 267-6003 • FAX (913) 267-0833

TESTIMONY

before the

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE

by

John L. Kiefhaber, Exec. Vice President

KANSAS HEALTH CARE ASSOCIATION

House Bill 2110

"AN ACT relating to fee structure for licensing adult care home administrators ..."

Chairperson Flower and Committee Members:

The Kansas Health Care Association, representing 213 professional nursing facilities throughout the State of Kansas, appreciates the opportunity to speak in opposition to the passage of House Bill 2110. This bill would allow nursing home administrators' licensing fees to be set in regulation directly by the Board of Adult Care Home Administrators, instead of leaving the amount of the fee in statute, where it can be controlled by legislative authority.

The Kansas Health Care Association opposes this idea for two reasons: first, the licensing fee would be set by the same authority that now hears complaints concerning nursing home administrators and within the influence of the Department of Health and Environment, which is responsible for the survey and licensing of all nursing facilities in the State. We believe this could allow the amount of the fee to be set to an onerously high level in the future without any effective way for

P.H.C.W.
attm #7
2-4-31

Testimony before the
House Committee on Public Health and Welfare
by John L. Kiefhaber, Exec. Vice President
Kansas Health Care Association
House Bill 2110
Page Two

the nursing home administrators to object. Secondly, the amount of the fee comes out of the nursing facility's budget in most cases -- a budget that is already cut well below the level of the cost of quality care by the present Medicaid reimbursement rates. To allow administrator fees to rise uncontrollably in the future would represent another opportunity for our strapped nursing homes to lose funding that could otherwise go toward patient care or facility upkeep.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak in opposition to
House Bill 2110.

PHCW
Attn #7
2-4-3
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