Approved:	3/17/95
	Data

MINUTES OF THE Senate Committee on Financial Institutions and Insurance.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Dick Bond at 9:10 a.m. on March 16, 1995 in Room 529-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present: Dr. William Wolff, Legislative Research Department

Fred Carman, Revisor of Statutes June Kossover, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: William Lewis, Gubernatorial Appointee to PMIB

John Wine, Gubernatorial Appointee as Securities Commissioner

Richard Huncker, Kansas Insurance Department

Others attending: See attached list

Senator Steffes made a motion, seconded by Senator Clark, to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 15 as submitted, The motion carried.

The hearing was opened on the confirmation of <u>William Lewis</u>, <u>Gubernatorial Appointee to the Pooled Money Investment Board</u>. (<u>Attachment #1</u>) Mr. Lewis provided a brief history of his professional experience and, in response to Senator Bond's request, summarized his investment experience with Exxon Corporation and CGF Industries. Mr. Lewis also stated that, in his opinion, there should not be immediate withdrawal of state idle funds from the Municipal Investment Pool in response to the Attorney General's opinion that the State Treasurer did not have the authority to transfer state funds into the MIP. In response to Senator Bond's question, Mr. Lewis stated that the legislature should clearly define the State Treasurer's authority and that there appeared to be a mismanagement of cash flow and, perhaps, the MIP should be more conservatively managed.

Senator Steffes asked who was in charge of the PMIB, the board members or the treasurer, and Mr. Lewis advised that although the treasurer has the authority to invest, the board has the responsibility to see that value is maintained. The chairman closed the hearing, stating that the PMIB is very fortunate to have someone of Mr. Lewis' background and experience serving on the Board. Senator Praeger made a motion to recommend that the Senate confirm Mr. Lewis to the Pooled Money Investment Board. Senator Petty seconded the motion. The motion carried.

John Wine, Gubernatorial Appointee as Securities Commissioner, also appeared before the committee for confirmation hearing. (Attachment #2) Mr. Wine outlined his background in business law and shared his plans for the office of Securities Commissioner. In response to Senator Petty's question, Mr. Wine stated that the Office of the Securities Commission is less concerned about the soundness of derivatives than regulation of the extent of investment in derivatives. Senator Petty moved to recommend favorably the confirmation of John Wine as Securities Commissioner. Senator Corbin seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The hearing was reopened on <u>HB 2343</u>, requiring HMO contracts to cover adopted children. This bill was initially heard on March 8. Chairman Bond reminded the committee that several issues are involved with this legislation. The first involves putting HMO's into fee for service status. Representative Gilmore, the sponsor of the bill, has requested an amendment to include the expenses of the birth mother in the HMO payment to the adoptive parents. Following discussion, the committee elected not to amend the bill as requested by Representative Gilmore. It was noted that necessary technical amendments were approved in the meeting of March 8.

Richard Huncker, Kansas Insurance Department, proposed amending the bill to extend to the year 2000 the deadline for small group compliance with community rating bands. (<u>Attachment #3</u>) Mr. Huncker also stated that Blue Cross Blue Shield is the only carrier who has communicated a concern about rate increases thus far. Senator Praeger stated that since the legislature mandated compliance with community rating bands, the legislature should do everything possible to alleviate compression shock to prevent people from becoming uninsured because of sudden and drastic rate increases.

Senators Lee and Petty expressed concern that one entity might be given special consideration when others have complied with the laws regarding community rating.

The hearing on HB 2343 will be continued on Friday, March 17. The committee adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

SENATE FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS & INSURANCE COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

DATE: 3/16/95

NAME	REPRESENTING
John Wine	Securities Commission
Bill Caton	PM (B
Carriann Richey	Golden Rule Insurance
W. F. Lenn	PMIB
Michal Konting	Michael Kenting
John Felderico	Pete McKill + Obsoc.
B.11 Sneed	HIRR
Hor hymn	EC/ES of Ka,
L. M. (B.o) CORNIST	Ks assn of help dis Cos
Cheryl Dillard	Dealth Vet Kansas City
Judy Krueger	Governor's Office
Samielle Noe	KCUA
FogerFranky	FFC
Ton Wilde	Kan Dat of hourous
Rich HUNCKER	Do INS. Dopt.
SimMary	KBA
Qudi Stock ()	OSBC
Usteve Ashley	Ks State Emp Hath Care Compission
STEUE LEARNEY	CIANA
LARRY MAGILL	KAIA
Brod Smout	BURS

SENATE CONFIRMATION QUESTIONNAIRE

Office of Governor Bill Graves
Please complete and return this form to the Governor's Appointments Office. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

Name: William E. Lewis				
Home Address: 3743 S.W. Canterb	ury Town Ro	ad		
City, State, Zip: Topeka, Kansas 66				
Business Address:312 Summerfield		rsity of	Kansas	
City, State, Zip: Lawrence, Kansas				
Home Phone: (913) 478-3340		ne: (913) 8	64-7583	•
Date of Birth: September 3, 1944				i
Party Affiliation: Republican KBI Ch				-
Appointed as: member; Posted Money			Complete	
Appointment Date: 2/20/95			9	
Term Length: 4 yrs	Statutory Aut			
•	_			with down)
Salary:Statutory Requirements: At least 5 years	1 redecessor <u>></u>	THE COME	stori Cresigneza	from reapys.
BACKGROUND 1. List high school, college, or other educated degree conferred.	ation institution a	ttended along	with the date atte	nded
Education Institution	Dates		Danie	
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•	1962-1968		athematics	iistration
_	958-1962		chool Diploma	L
List memberships in business, trade and Organization	professional org	anizations for	the past 10 years.	
Financial Executives Ins	stitute	1 0		
3. List any public offices you have been ele				vice.
None				0 1 11
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None List any lobbying activities y vities as a registered lobbyis Group None	you have been involved in during the st or lobbying activities for which you Compensation (yes/no)	e past five years. This includes ou were compensated. Dates
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None		
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List experience or interests v	which qualify you for the position to	which you have been
ounted <u>Masters degree</u>	in Finance; Management o	f finance staffs in
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Summarize business and pro	fessional experience.Financial	management of Exxon
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Branch	Discharge	Dates
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Provide details of any arrest,	charge or questioning by a federal,	state or other law
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	any interests that may present a conf	flict of interest for this
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tion. <u>None</u>		
tion. None		
tion. <u>None</u>		



FILED MAR 0 6 1995

KANSAS COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENTAL STANDARDS AND CONDUCT STATE

STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL INTERESTS FOR INDIVIDUALS WHOSE

APPOINTMENT TO STATE OFFICE IS SUBJECT TO SENATE CONFIRMATION

INSTRUCTIONS. This statement (pages 1 through 4) must be completed by each person whose appointment to a state position is subject to Senate confirmation (K.S.A. 46-247 and 46-248). Failure to complete and return this statement may result in a fine of \$10 per day for each day it remains unfiled. Also, any individual who intentionally fails to file as required by law, or intentionally files a false statement, is subject to prosecution for a class B misdemeanor.

Please read the "Guide" and "Definition" section provided with this form for additional assistance in completing sections "C" through "G". If you have questions or wish assistance, please contact the Commission office at 109 West 9th, Topeka, KS or call 913-296-4219.

A. IDENTIFICATION:

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

LEWIS	$ \omega $	II I A M	E
Last Name	Fir	st Name	ні
LEWIS	LAU	RA	S
Spouse's Name			
3743 SW	CANTE	RBURY	TWNRD
Number & Street Nam	ie, Apartment Num	ber, Rural Route,	or P.O. Box Number
TOPEKA	KS 66	610-1	505
City, State, Zip Co	de ,		
913 ** 478	** 3 3 40	9/3 ** 8	64 ** 7583
Home Phone Nu	ımber	Business	Phone Number

B. APPOINTED POSITION SUBJECT TO SENATE CONFIRMATION:

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Position

* The last four digits of your social security number will aid in identifying you from others with the same name on the computer list. This information is optional.

• 0846

C. OWNERSHIP INTERESTS: List any corporation, partnership, proprietorship, trust, joint venture and every other business interest, including land used for income in, which either you or your spouse has owned within the preceding 12 months a legal or equitable interest exceeding \$5,000 or 5%, whichever is less. If you or your spouse own more than 5% of a business, you must disclose the percentage held. Please insert additional page if necessary to complete this section.

If you have nothing to report in Section "C", check here .

	BUSINESS NAME AND ADDRESS	TYPE OF BUSINESS	DESCRIPTION OF INTERESTS HELD	HELD PERCENT OF BY OWNERSHIP WHOM INTERESTS
1.				You Spouse Jointly
2.				You Spouse Jointly
3.				You Spouse Jointly .
1.				You Spouse Jointly
5.				You Spouse Jointly
6.				You Spouse Jointly
7.				You You Spouse Jointly

D. GIFTS OR HONORARIA: List any person or business from whom you or your spouse either individually or collectively, have received gifts or honoraria having an aggregate value of \$500 or more in the preceding 12 months.

If you have nothing to report in Section "D", check here .

	MYRE 0	F PERSON	OR	BUSINESS	FROM	MEON	GIFT	RECEIVED	ADDRESS	RECEIVED BY:
1.										
2.										
3.										

1.	RECEIPT OF COMPENSATION: List all places of employment in the last calendar year, and any
	other businesses from which you or your spouse received \$2,000 or more in compensation
	(salary, thing of value, or economic benefit conferred on in return for services rendered.
	or to be rendered), which was reportable as taxable income on your federal income tax
	returns.

1. YOUR PLACE(S) OF EMPLOYMENT OR OTHER BUSINESS IN THE PRECEDING CALENDAR YEAR. IF SAME AS SECTION "B", CHECK HERE ____.

If you have nothing to report in Section "E"1, check here ____.

	NAME OF BUSINESS		ADDRESS	TYPE OF BUSINESS
1. UNIVE	= RSITYO +	KANSAS	LAWRENCE KS	EduCATION
2.	/	7	,	

2. SPOUSE'S PLACE(S) OF EMPLOYMENT OR OTHER BUSINESS IN THE PRECEDING CALENDAR YEAR. If you have nothing to report in Section "E"2, check here ____.

	NAME OF BUSINESS		ADDRESS	TIPE OF BUSINESS
1.	MERCANTILE	BANK	TopekA	BANKING-
2.			/	

F. OFFICER OR DIRECTOR OF AN ORGANIZATION OR BUSINESS: List any organization or business in which you or your spouse hold a position of officer, director, associate, partner or proprietor at the time of filing, irrespective of the amount of compensation received for holding such position. Please insert additional page if necessary to complete this section. If you have nothing to report in Section "F", check here

	BUSINESS NAME AND ADDRESS	POSITION HELD	HELD BY WHOM
1.			
2.			
3.			
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5.			

G. RECEIPT OF FEES AND COMMISSIONS: List each client or customer who pays fees or commissions to a business or combination of businesses from which fees or commissions you or your spouse received an aggregate of \$2,000 or more in the preceding calendar year. The phrase "client or customer" relates only to businesses or combination of businesses. In the case of a partnership, it is the partner's proportionate share of the business, and hence of the fee, which is significant, without regard to expenses of the partnership. An individual who receives a salary as opposed to portions of fees or commissions is generally not required to report under this provision. Please insert additional page if necessary to complete this section

If you have nothing to report in Section "G", check here ...

	NAME OF CLIENT / CUSTOMER	ADDRESS	RECEIVED BY
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H. DECLARATION

I. Willam E. Lewis, declare that this statement of substantial interests (including any accompanying pages and statements) has been examined by me and to the best of my knowledge and belief is a true, correct and complete statement of all of my substantial interests and other matters required by law. I understand that the intentional failure to file this statement as required by law or intentionally filing a false statement is a class B misdemeanor.

Signature of Person Making Statement

NUMBER OF ADDITIONAL PAGES O.

Return your completed statement to the Secretary of State, State House, Topeka, Kansas 66612.

Name: John R. Wine, Jr.

APPOINTMENTS QUESTIONNAIRE
Office of Governor Bill Graves
Please complete and return this form to the Governor's Appointments Office. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

Home Address: 212 Woodlawn	
City, State, Zip: Topeka, Kansas 66606	
Business Address: 618 S. Kansas Ave., 2nd Floor	
City, State, Zip: Topeka, KS 66603-3804	
Home Phone: (913) 233-5455 Business Phone: (9	13) 296-3307
Date of Birth: 3-21-53 Place of Birth: Wi	
Party Affiliation: Rep. KBI Check: NA 🌊 In Pro	
Appointed as: Kansas Securities Commissioner	
Appointment Date: 1-9-95 Expiration Date:	N/A
	K.S.A. 75-6301
Salary: \$68,340 Predecessor: Ji	m Parrish
Statutory Requirements: "shall have special traini	
tions for such position." (K.S.A. 75-6301)	
BACKGROUND	
1. List high school, college, or other education institution attended and degree conferred.	along with the date attended
Education Institution Dates	Degree
Wichita West High School 1968-1971	Diploma
Friends University 1971-1975	B.A.
Kansas Univ. School of Law 1975-1978	J.D.
2. List memberships in business, trade and professional organization	ns for the past 10 years.
Organization	Dates
Kansas Bar Association	1978 to present
3. List any public offices you have been elected or appointed to, al	ong with the dates of service
	Dates
Office Held	19811987
Deputy Asst. Secretary of State Asst. Secretary of State	
General CounselSecretary of State	19871993 Senate 7 19931995 3/16/9 Ottoch ment
	attachment

Position		Go	vernment Entity		Da	ites
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FILEU APR 1 5 1994

BILL GRAVES

KANSAS COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENTAL STANDARDS POMETARNO ATA-

STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL INTERESTS FOR GENERAL COUNSEL

FOR STATE AGENCY

<u>INSTRUCTIONS</u>. This statement (pages 1 through 4) must be completed by a general counsel for a state agency (K.S.A. 46-247 and 46-248). Failure to complete and return this statement may result in a fine of \$10 per day for each day it remains unfiled. Also, any individual who intentionally fails to file as required by law, or intentionally files a false statement, is subject to prosecution for a class B misdemeanor.

Please read the "Guide" and "Definition" section provided with this form for additional asistance in completing section "C" through "G". If you have questions or wish assistance, please contact the Commission office at 109 West 9th, Topeka, KS or call 913-296-4219.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

A. IDENTIFICATION:

WINESTRITOHW	R
Last Name First Name	MI
ELLEW SUE WINE	
Spouse's Name	
212 WOODLAWN	
Number & Street Name, Apartment Number, Rural Route, or P.O. Box Num	ber
TOPEKA KS 66606	
City, State, Zip Code	
913 ** 2833 ** 5455 913 ** 296 ** 076	05
Home Phone Number Business Phone Number	
B. GENERAL COUNSEL FOR:	
Secretary of State	
List Name of Agency, Commission or Board	
General Counsell	
Position	

- * The last four digits of your social security number will aid in identifying you from others with the same name on the computer list. This information is optional.
 - from others with the same name on the computer list. This information is opt

C. OWNERSHIP INTERESTS: List any corporation, partnership, proprietorship, trust, joint venture and every other business interest, including land used for income in, which either you or your spouse has owned within the preceding 12 months a legal or equitable interest exceeding \$5,000 or 5%, whichever is less. If you or your spouse own more than 5% of a business, you must disclose the percentage held. Please insert additional page if necessary to complete this section.

If you have nothing to report in Section "C", check here ____.

BUSINESS NAME AND ADDRESS	TYPE OF BUSINESS	DESCRIPTION OF INTERESTS HELD	HELD PERCENT OF BY OWNERSHIP WHOM INTERESTS
1. SN County Farm Topeka Ks	Farm	Contract Sor deed	You Spouse X/00 Jointly
2. 5G Casuty Farm Garden Plain KS	Farm	remainder interest	You Spouse COO Jointly
3. Business haw Witing	free-lance writing	Sole j proprietaslip	<u>X</u> 6∞ You Spouse Jointly
4. 18. 18. 18. 18. 18. 18. 18. 18. 18. 18			You Spouse Jointly
5.			You Spouse Jointly
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D. GIFTS OR HONORARIA: List any person or business from whom you or your spouse either individually or collectively, have received gifts or honoraria having an aggregate value of \$500 or more in the preceding 12 months.

If you have nothing to report in Section "D", check here ...

	NAME OF PER	RSOM OR	BUSINESS	FROM W	HOM GIFT	RECEIVED	ADDRESS	RECEIVED BY:
1.	•							
2.								
3.								

- E. <u>RECEIPT OF COMPENSATION:</u> List all places of employment in the last calendar year, and any other businesses from which you or your spouse received \$2,000 or more in compensation (salary, thing of value, or economic benefit conferred on in return for services rendered, or to be rendered), which was reportable as taxable income on your federal income tax returns.
 - 1. YOUR PLACE(S) OF EMPLOYMENT OR OTHER BUSINESS IN THE PRECEDING CALENDAR YEAR. IF SAME AS SECTION "B", CHECK HERE .

 If you have nothing to report in Section "E"1, check here ____.

NAME OF BUSINESS	ADDRESS	TYPE OF BUSINESS
1.		·
2.		

2. SPOUSE'S PLACE(S) OF EMPLOYMENT OR OTHER BUSINESS IN THE PRECEDING CALENDAR YEAR. If you have nothing to report in Section "E"2, check here ____.

NAME OF BUSINESS	ADDRESS	TYPE OF BUSINESS
1.5t. Mary's High School-USD#321	St Mary's K5	tacher
2.		

which you or your spouse hold a position of officer, director, associate, partner or proprietor at the time of filing, irrespective of the amount of compensation received for holding such position. Please insert additional page if necessary to complete this section. If you have nothing to report in Section "F", check here ____.

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	BUSINESS NAME AND ADDRESS		POSITION HELD	HELD BY MHON
	hildran's Service Lead	gue _	director	Tolice
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4.				
5.				·

G. <u>RECEIPT OF FEES AND COMMISSIONS:</u> List each client or customer who pays fees or commissions to a business or combination of businesses from which fees or commissions you or your spouse received an aggregate of \$2,000 or more in the preceding calendar year. The phrase "client or customer" relates only to businesses or combination of businesses. In the case of a partnership, it is the partner's proportionate share of the business, and hence of the fee, which is significant, without regard to expenses of the partnership. An individual who receives a salary as opposed to portions of fees or commissions is generally not required to report under this provision. Please insert additional page if necessary to complete this section.

If you have nothing to report in Section "G", check here X.

	NAME OF CLIENT / CUSTOMER	ADDRESS	RECEIVED BY
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H.	DECLAI	RATION:

	clare that this statement of substantial interests
(including any accompanying pages and sta	tements) has been examined by me and to the best of
my knowledge and belief is a true, corre	ct and complete statement of all of my substantial
interests and other matters required by	law. I understand that the intentional failure to
file this statement as required by law-es	intentionally filing a false statement is a class
B misdemeanor.	

Date

Signature of Person Making Statement

NUMBER OF ADDITIONAL PAGES _____.

Kansas Insurance Department

Kathleen Sebelius, Commissioner

420 SW 9th Topeka, Kansas 66612-1678 (913) 296-3071

TO:

Senate Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee

FROM:

Richard G. Huncker

Accident & Health Supervisor

SUBJECT:

Proposed Amendments to K.S.A. Supp. 40-2209h(6)

DATE:

March 16, 1995

The purpose of this amendment is to revise the transition period allowed for small employer carriers to accomplish compliance with the modified community rating bands set form in K.S.A. 40-2209h(a)(1) and (2).

Specifically, K.S.A. 40-2209(a)(1) establishes restrictions to narrow the difference between the highest and lowest rates charged groups in different risk classifications or otherwise known as classes of business. K.S.A. 40-2209h(a)(2) establishes restrictions between the highest and lowest rates charged any group within a particular classification.

The proposed language is intended to address the groups who are below the lowest band and who may be subjected to extensive rate increases if a small employer carrier is required to comply with the language set forth in K.S.A. 40-2209h(a)(1) and (2) by the first renewal date on or after December 31, 1996.

Although our department does not stand here for or against this proposal,

I would like to point out that to our knowledge Blue Cross and Blue

Shield of Kansas is the only carrier who is confronted with this predica-

Senate 7/41 3/16/95 attach ment #3 ment. It appears 1,044 groups consisting of 6,829 enrolled contracts may be provided relief by the proposed language to extend the transition period to the group's renewal date on or after December 31, 2000.

New Section . K.S.A. 40-2209h is hereby amended to read as follows:

40-2209h. From and after January 1, 1903: (a)
Premium rates applicable to Kansas residents for health benefit plans subject to this act shall be subject to the following provisions:

(1) The index rate for a rating period for any class of business shall not exceed the index rate for any other class of business by more than 20%.

- (2) For a class of business, the premium rates charged during a rating period to small employers with similar case characteristics for the same or similar coverage, or the rates that could be charged to such employers under the rating system for that class of business, shall not vary from the index rate by more than 25% of the index
- (3) The percentage increase in the premium rate charged to a small employer for a new rating period may not exceed the sum of the following:
- (A) The percentage change in the new business premium rate measured from the first day of the prior rating period to the first day of the conservating period. In the case of a health benefit plan into which the small employer carrier is no longer enrolling new small employers, the small employer carrier shall use the percentage change

not exceed, on a percentage basis, the change in the new business premium rate for the most similar health benefit plan into which the small employer carrier is actively enrolling new small employers:

(B) any adjustment, not to exceed 15% annually and adjusted pro rata for rating periods of less than one year, due to the claim experience, health status or duration of coverage of the employees or dependents of the small employer as determined from the small employer carrier's rate manual for the class of business; and

(C) any adjustment due to change in coverage or change in the case characteristics of the small employer, as determined from the small employer carrier's rate manual for the class of business.

(4) Adjustments in rates for claim experience, health status and duration of coverage shall not be charged to individual employees or dependents. Any such adjustment shall be applied uniformly to the rates charged for all employees and dependents of the small employer.

(5) A small employer carrier may utilize industry as a case characteristic in establishing premium rates, if the highest rate factor associated with any industry classification does not exceed the lowest rate factor associated with any industry classification by more than 30% for each year until the earlier of the first acquisition of coverage from a small employer carrier which did not previously provide coverage to that small employer or the first renewal date on or after December 31, 1996, and 15% each year thereafter.

(6) A premium rate for a rating period may exceed the ranges set forth in paragraphs (1) and (2) until the earlier of the first acquisition of coverage from a small employer carrier which did not previously provide coverage to that small employer or the first renewal date on or after December 31, 1996. In such case, the percentage increase in the premium rate charged to a small employer for a new rating period shall not exceed the sum of the following:

(A) The percentage change in the new business premium rate measured from the first day of the prior rating period to the first day of the new rating period. In the case of a health benefit plan into which the small employer carrier is no longer enrolling new small employers, the small employer carrier shall use the percentage change in the base premium rate, if such change does

small premium rates employer covered by a small employer carrier prior to January 1, 1993 are below the lowest range as set forth paragraphs (1) and (2), small employer carrier must at least increase that small employer's rates commencing with renewals on or after equally 1995 31, December distribute the needed increase to employer's rates small that within the range over the renewal opportunities remaining so that the small employer's renewal rates on or after December 31, 2000 would be within the ranges.

not exceed, on a percentage basis, the change in the new business premium rate for the most similar health benefit plan into which the small employer carrier is actively enrolling new small employers.

(B) Any adjustment due to change in coverage or change in the case characteristics of the small employer, as determined from the carrier's

rate manual for the class of business.

(7) (A) Small employer carriers shall apply rating factors, including case characteristics, consistently with respect to all small employers in a class of business. Rating factors shall produce premiums for identical groups which differ only by amounts attributable to plan design and do not reflect differences due to the nature of the groups assumed to select particular health benefit plans.

(B) A small employer carrier shall treat all health benefit plans issued or renewed in a class of business in the same calendar month as having

the same rating period.

(8) For the purposes of this subsection, a health benefit plan that utilizes a restricted provider network shall not be considered similar coverage to a health benefit plan that does not utilize such a network, if utilization of the restricted provider network results in substantial differences in claims costs.

(9) A small employer carrier shall not use case characteristics, other than age, gender, industry, geographic area, family composition, and group size without prior approval of the com-

missioner.

(10) The commissioner may establish regulations to implement the provisions of this section and to assure that rating practices used by small employer carriers are consistent with the pur-

poses of this act, including:

(A) Assuring that differences in rates charged for health benefit plans by small employer carriers are reasonable and reflect objective differences in plan design, not including differences due to the nature of the groups assumed to select particular health benefit plans; and

(B) prescribing the manner in which case characteristics may be used by small employer

carriers.

(b) A small employer carrier shall not transfer a small employer involuntarily into or out of a class of business. A small employer carrier shall not offer to transfer a small employer into or out of a class of business unless such offer is made

to transfer all small employers in the class of business without regard to case characteristics, claim experience, health status or duration of coverage.

(c) The commissioner may suspend for a specified period the application of subsection (a)(1) as to the premium rates applicable to one or more small employers included within a class of business of a small employer carrier for one or more rating periods upon a filing by the small employer carrier and a finding by the commissioner either that the suspension is reasonable in light of the financial condition of the small employer carrier or that the suspension would enhance the efficiency and fairness of the market-place for small employer health insurance.

(d) Upon written application of the group policyholders, the commissioner may suspend the application of K.S.A. 40-2209g and 40-2209h and amendments thereto to any group whose fundamental structure or composition would oth-

erwise be adversely affected.