Approved:

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Sandy Praeger at 11:10 a.m. on April 11, 1997 at the Rail of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present:

Norman Furse, Revisor of Statutes Jo Ann Bunten, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Others attending: See attached list

Briefing, Discussion and Action on <u>HB 2278</u> - Restrictions on persons operating, working or volunteering in adult care homes

Staff briefed the Committee on further amendments to <u>HB 2278</u> as noted in the attached balloon of the bill. (Attachment 1) It was also suggested a technical change needed to be made relating to the phase-in of background checks in subsection (b) be moved to subsection (a) as shown in Section 7 of the bill.

Senator Langworthy made a motion the Committee adopt the amendments in the balloon of the bill as well as the technical change in Section 7, seconded by Senator Lee. The motion carried.

Senator Lee made a motion the Committee recommend HB 2278 as amended favorably for passage, seconded by Senator Langworthy. The motion carried.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

As Amended by House Committee

Section of 1997

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HOUSE BILL No. 2278

By Representatives Toelkes, Adkins, Alldritt, Ballard, Ballou, Beggs, Benlon, Burroughs, Correll, Crow, Dean, Empson, Feuerborn, Findley, Flaharty, Flora, Franklin, Geringer, Cilbert, Grant, Hayzlett, Henderson, Henry, Horst, Howell, Kirk, Krehbiel, Kuether, Landwehr, Larkin, J.Long, Mason, Mayans, Mays, McClure, McKinney, Minor, Nichols, E.Peterson, Phelps, Pottorff, Reardon, Ruff, Sawyer, Sharp, Showalter, Shriver, Sloan, Spangler, Stone, Storm, Thimesch, Tomlinson, Toplikar, Wagle, Weiland, Welshimer and Wempe

2-10

AN ACT concerning the department of health and environment; restrictions on persons operating adult care homes and home health agencies of [and on certain persons] working for or regularly volunteering to assist such homes or agencies.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas

Section 1. (a) No person shall knowingly operate an adult care home if, in the adult care home, there works or [, if the operator of the adult care home has elected to make persons who regularly volunteer in the adult care home subject to the requirements of this section, there] regularly volunteers any person who:

- (1) (A) Has a felony conviction for a crime against persons, (B) has a felony conviction under the uniform controlled substances act, (G) has a conviction of any activhich is described in articles 34, 35 or 36 of chapter 21 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated and acts amendatory thereof or supplemental thereto, except K.S.A. 21-3605 and amendments thereto, or a conviction of an attempt under K.S.A. 21-3301 and amendments thereto to commit any such act, or (D) [(C)] has been convicted of any act which is described in K.S.A. 21-4301 or 21-4301a and amendments thereto or similar statutes of other states or the federal government;
- (2) has been adjudicated a juvenile offender because of having committed an act which if done by an adult would constitute the commission of a felony and which is a crime against persons, is any act described in articles 34, 35 or 36 of chapter 21 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated and

concerning the background of certain persons for employment purposes;

; employment checks by community service providers, mental health centers and independent living agencies

On and after July 1, 1998, no

(B)

- acts amendatory thereof or supplemental thereto [except K.S.A. 21-3605 and amendments thereto], or is any act described in K.S.A. 21-4301 or 21-4301a and amendments thereto or similar statutes of other states or the federal government;
- (3) has committed an act of physical, mental or emotional abuse or neglect or sexual abuse as validated by the department of social and rehabilitation services pursuant to K.S.A. 38-1523 and amendments thereto and (A) the person has failed to successfully complete a corrective action plan which had been deemed appropriate and approved by the department of social and rehabilitation services, or (B) the record has not been expunged pursuant to rules and regulations adopted by the secretary of social and rehabilitation services;
- (4) has had a child declared in a court order in this or any other state to be deprived or a child in need of care based on an allegation of physical, mental or emotional abuse or neglect or sexual abuse;
- (5) has had parental rights terminated pursuant to the Kansas juvenile code or K.S.A. 38-1581 through 38-1584, and amendments thereto, or a similar statute of other states;
- (6) has signed a diversion agreement pursuant to K.S.A. 22-2906 et seq., and amendments thereto, or pursuant to K.S.A. 38-1635 and amendments thereto involving a charge of child abuse or a sexual offense;
- (7) has been found by the department of health and environment or the department of social and rehabilitation services under K.S.A. 39-1401 et seq. and amendments thereto to have committed an act of abuse, neglect or exploitation of a resident; or
- (8) has been found by the department of social and rehabilitation services under KSA 39-1430 et seq. and amendments thereto to have committed an act of abuse, neglect or exploitation of an adult.
- (b) No person shall operate an adult care home if such person has been found to be a disabled person in need of a guardian or conservator, or both.
- (c) In accordance with the provisions of this subsection (c), the secretary of health and environment shall have access to any court orders or adjudications of any court of record, any records of such orders or adjudications, criminal history record information in the possession of the Kansas bureau of investigation and any report of investigations as authorized by subsection (e) of K.S.A. 38-1523 and amendments thereto in the possession of the department of social and rehabilitation services or court of this state, or any reports of investigations, findings or assessments as provided in K.S.A. 39-1402 and amendments thereto, 39-1404 and amendments thereto, 39-1411 and amendments thereto, in the possession of the department of health and environment or the department



of social and rehabilitation services for court of this state concerning persons working for regularly volunteering in an adult care home. The secretary shall have access to these records for the purpose of determining whether or not the adult care home meets the requirements of this section. The Kansas bureau of investigation may charge to the department of health and environment a reasonable fee for providing criminal history record information under this subsection.

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(d) For the purpose of complying with this section, the operator of an adult care home shall request from the department of health and environment information obtained by the secretary of health and environment under subsection (c) and information available under subsection (e)(5) [(c)(4)] of K.S.A. 39-936 and amendments thereto, if any, which relates to a person who works or [, if the operator has elected to make persons who regularly volunteer in the adult care home subject to the requirements of this section,) regularly volunteers in the adult care home, or is being considered for employment of, if the operator has elected to make persons who regularly volunteer in the adult care home subject to the requirements of this section,] as a volunteerfly the adult care home, for the purpose of determining whether such person is subject to the provision of this section. The operator may rely on werhal information from the department of health and environment to be followed by written confirmation of the werbal report. For the purpose of complying with this section, the operator of an adult care home shall receive from any employment agency which provides employees of the employment agency to work in the adult care home written certification that such employees are not prohibited from working in the adult care home under this section. [For the purpose of complying with this section, information relating to convictions and adjudications by the federal government or to convictions and adjudications in states other than Kansas shall not be required until such time as the secretary of health and environment determines the search for such information could reasonably be performed and the information obtained within a two-week period. No operator of an adult care home or, the employees of an adult care home or an employment agency, or the operator or employees of an employment agency, shall be liable for civil damages to any person refused employment or discharged from employment by reason of such operator's compliance with the provisions of this section if such operator or employment agency acts in good faith to comply with this section.

(e) For the purpose of subsection (a)(3), an act of abuse or neglect shall not be considered to have been validated by the department of social and rehabilitation services unless the alleged perpetrator has: (1) Had an opportunity to be interviewed and present information during the inves-

For the purpose of complying with this section, a person who operates an adult care home may hire an applicant for employment on a conditional basis pending the results from the department of health and environment of a request for information under this subsection

operator or

resulting from any decision to employ, to refuse to employ or to discharge from employment any person based on

adult care home's

adult care home

tigation of the alleged act of abuse or neglect; and (2) been given notice of the agency decision and an opportunity to appeal such decision to the secretary and to the courts pursuant to the act for judicial review and civil enforcement of agency actions.

- (f) The secretary of health and environment shall charge each person requesting information under this section a fee of \$5 lor each name about which an information request has been submitted to the department under this section.
- [(g) No person who works for an adult care home and who is currently licensed or registered by an agency of this state to provide professional services in the state and who provides such services as part of the work which such person performs for the adult care home shall be subject to the provisions of this section.]
- (g) [(h)] A family member who acts as a volunteer in earing for a relative in an adult care home (person who volunteers in an adult care home] shall not be subject to the provisions of this section because of such volunteer activity funless the operator of the adult care home in which such person volunteers elects by written notice to the secretary of health and environment to make all persons who regularly volunteer in such adult care home subject to the requirements of this section |.

(f) (h) ((i)) This section shall be part of and supplemental to the adult

care home beensure act.

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Sec. 2. (a) No person shall knowingly operate a home health agency if, for the home health agency, there works or, if the operator of the home health agency has elected to make persons who regularly volunteer to assist the home health agency subject to the requirements of this section, there regularly volunteers to assist the home health agency any person who:

(1) (A) Has a felony conviction for a crime against persons, (B) has a felony conviction under the uniform controlled substances act; (C)[has a conviction of any act which is described in articles 34, 35 or 36 of chapter 21 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated and acts amendatory thereof or supplemental thereto[, except K.S.A. 21-3605 and amendments thereto,] or a conviction of an attempt under K.S.A. 21-3301 and amendments thereto to commit any such act, or (D)[(C)] has been convicted of any act which is described in K.S.A. 21-4301 or 21-4301a and amendments thereto or similar statutes of other states or the federal government:

(2) has been adjudicated a juvenile offender because of having committed an act which if done by an adult would constitute the commission of a felony and which is a crime against persons, is any act described in articles 34, 35 or 36 of chapter 21 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated and

equal to cost, not to exceed \$10,

No person who has been employed by the same adult care home for five consecutive years immediately prior to the effective date of this act shall be subject to the provisions of this section while employed by such adult care home.

The operator of an adult care home shall not be required under this section to conduct a background check on an applicant for employment with the adult care home if the applicant has been the subject of a background check under this act within one year prior to the application for employment with the adult care home.

On and after July 1, 1998, no

(B)

acts amendatory thereof or supplemental thereto [except K.S.A. 21-3605 and amendments thereto], or is any act described in K.S.A. 21-4301 or 21-4301a and amendments thereto or similar statutes of other states or the federal government;

- (3) has committed an act of physical, mental or emotional abuse or neglect or sexual abuse as validated by the department of social and rehabilitation services pursuant to K.S.A. 38-1523 and amendments thereto and (A) the person has failed to successfully complete a corrective action plan which had been deemed appropriate and approved by the department of social and rehabilitation services, or (B) the record has not been expunged pursuant to rules and regulations adopted by the secretary of social and rehabilitation services:
- (4) has had a child declared in a court order in this or any other state to be deprived or a child in need of care based on an allegation of physical, mental or emotional abuse or neglect or sexual abuse;
- (5) has had parental rights terminated pursuant to the Kansas juvenile code or K.S.A. 38-1581 through 38-1584, and amendments thereto, or a similar statute of other states;
- (6) has signed a diversion agreement pursuant to K.S.A. 22-2906 et seq., and amendments thereto, or pursuant to K.S.A. 38-1635 and amendments thereto involving a charge of child abuse or a sexual offense;
- (7) has been found by the department of health and environment or the department of social and rehabilitation services under K.S.A. 39-1401 et seq. and amendments thereto to have committed an act of abuse, neglect or exploitation of a resident; or
- (8) has been found by the department of social and rehabilitation services under K.S.A. 39-1430 et seq. and amendments thereto to have committed an act of abuse, neglect or exploitation of an adult.
- (b) No person shall operate a home health agency if such person has been found to be a disabled person in need of a guardian or conservator, or both.
- (c) In accordance with the provisions of this subsection (c), the secretary of health and environment shall have access to any court orders or adjudications of any court of record, any records of such orders or adjudications. criminal history record information in the possession of the Kansas bureau of investigation and any report of investigations as authorized by subsection (e) of K.S.A. 38-1523 and amendments thereto in the possession of the department of social and rehabilitation services for court of this state, or any reports of investigations, findings or assessments as provided in K.S.A. 39-1402 and amendments thereto, 39-1404 and amendments thereto, 39-1411 and amendments thereto, in the possession of the department of health and environment or the department

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of social and rehabilitation services or court of this state concerning persons working or regularly volunteering for a home health agency. The secretary shall have access to these records for the purpose of determining whether or not the home health agency meets the requirements of this section. The Kansas bureau of investigation may charge to the department of health and environment a reasonable fee for providing criminal history record information under this subsection.

(d) For the purpose of complying with this section, the operator of a home health agency shall request from the department of health and environment information obtained by the secretary of health and environment under subsection (c), if any, which relates to a person who works for the home health agency or [or [, if the operator has elected to make persons who regularly volunteer to assist the home health agency subject to the requirements of this section,] regularly volunteers to assist the home health agency or is being considered for employment for[, if the operator has elected to make persons who regularly volunteer to assist the home health agency subject to the requiremonts of this section, as a volunteer by the home health agency, for the purpose of determining whether such person is subject to the provisions of this section. The operator may rely on verbal information from the department of health and environment to be followed by written confirmation of the verbal report. [For the purpose of complying with this section, information relating to convictions and adjudications by the federal government or to convictions and adjudications in states other than Kansas shall not be required until such time as the secretary of health and environment determines the search for such information could reasonably be performed and the information obtained within a two-week period.] No operator of a home health agency or, the employees of a home health agency or an employment agency, or the operator or employees of an employment agency, which provides employees to work for the home health agency shall be liable for civil damages to any person refused employment or discharged from employment by reason of such operator's compliance with the provisions of this section if such operator or employment agency acts in good faith to comply with this section.

(e) For the purpose of subsection (a)(3), an act of abuse or neglect shall not be considered to have been validated by the department of social and rehabilitation services unless the alleged perpetrator has: (1) Had an opportunity to be interviewed and present information during the investigation of the alleged act of abuse or neglect; and (2) been given notice of the agency decision and an opportunity to appeal such decision to the secretary and to the courts pursuant to the act for judicial review and civil enforcement of agency actions.

For the purpose of complying with this section, a person who operates a home health agency may hire an applicant for employment on a conditional basis pending the results from the department of health and environment of a request for information under this subsection.

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resulting from any decision to employ, to refuse to employ or to discharge from employment any person based on

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- (f) The secretary of health and environment shall charge each person requesting information under this section a fee of \$5 for each name about which an information request has been submitted under this section.
- [(g) No person who works for a home health agency and who is currently licensed or registered by an agency of this state to provide professional services in this state and who provides such services as part of the work which such person performs for the home health agency shall be subject to the provisions of this section.]
- (g) [(h)] A family member who acts as a volunteer in earing for a relative who is receiving home health services [person who volunteers to assist a home health agency] shall not be subject to the provisions of this section because of such volunteer activity [unless the operator of the home health agency for which such person volunteers elects by written notice to the secretary of health and environment to make all persons who regularly volunteer to assist such home health agency subject to the requirements of this section].

(f) (h) [[(i)]] This section shall be part of and supplemental to the provisions of article 51 of chapter 65 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated and acts amendatory thereof or supplemental thereto.

Sec. 3 This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.

equal to cost, not to exceed \$10,

- (i) No person who has been employed by the same home health agency for five consecutive years immediately prior to the effective date of this act shall be subject to the requirements of this section while employed by such adult care home.
- (j) The operator of a home health agency shall not be required under this section to conduct a background check on an applicant for employment with the home health agency if the applicant has been the subject of a background check under this act within one year prior to the application for employment with the home health agency.

Sec. 3. The secretary of health and environment shall provide for the implementation of the processing of information requested from the department of health and environment on an incremental basis. This implementation shall be completed so that adult care homes and home health agencies may receive information required under this act no later than July 1, 1998.

Sections 4 through 8 attached

And by amending the title accordingly

- New Sec. 4. (a) A community service provider as defined in K.S.A. 1996 Supp. 39-1803 and amendments thereto, a mental health center as defined in K.S.A. 65-4432 and amendments thereto and an independent living agency as defined in K.S.A. 65-5101 and amendments thereto may request for the purpose of obtaining background information on applicants for employment with such entity information:
- (1) From the department of social and rehabilitation services as to whether such applicant has committed an act of physical, mental or emotional abuse or neglect or sexual abuse as validated by the department of social and rehabilitation services pursuant to K.S.A. 38-1523 and amendments thereto:
- (2) from the department of social and rehabilitation services as to whether such applicant has been found to have committed an act of abuse, neglect or exploitation of a resident as contained in the register of reports under K.S.A. 39-1404 and amendments thereto or an act of abuse, neglect or exploitation of an adult as contained in the register of reports under K.S.A. 39-1434 and amendments thereto;
- (3) from the department of health and environment as to whether such applicant has been found to have committed an act of abuse, neglect or exploitation of a resident as contained in the register of reports under K.S.A. 39-1411 and amendments thereto;
- (4) from the department of health and environment any information concerning the applicant in the state registry which contains information about unlicensed employees of adult care homes under K.S.A. 39-936 and amendments thereto.
- Sec. 5. K.S.A. 39-1404 is hereby amended to read as follows: 39-1404. (a) The department of social and rehabilitation services or the department of health and environment upon receiving a report that a resident is being, or has been, abused, neglected or exploited, or is in a condition which is the result of such abuse, neglect or exploitation or is in need of protective services, within 24 hours of receiving such report, shall initiate an investigation, including a personal visit with the resident and, within two weeks of receiving such report, shall complete the investigation to determine if the resident is being or has been abused, neglected or exploited or is in a condition which is a result of such abuse, neglect or exploitation. The investigation shall include, but not be limited to, a visit to the named resident and consultation with those individuals having knowledge of the facts of the particular case. Upon completion of the investigation of each case, written findings shall be prepared which shall include a finding of whether there is or has been buse, neglect or exploitation, recommended action and a determination of nether protective services are needed. If it appears that a crime has

occurred, the appropriate law enforcement agency shall be notified by the department investigating the report.

- (b) The secretary of social and rehabilitation services shall maintain a register of the reports received and investigated by the department of social and rehabilitation services, the findings, evaluations and the actions recommended. The register shall be available for inspection by personnel of the department of social and rehabilitation services. The secretary of social and rehabilitation services shall forward a copy of any report of abuse, neglect or exploitation of a resident investigated by the department of social and rehabilitation services to the secretary of health and environment and, in the case of a report of abuse, neglect or exploitation of a resident of an adult family home, to the secretary of aging.
- (c) The report received by the department of social and rehabilitation services and the written findings, evaluations and actions recommended shall not be deemed a public record or be subject to the provisions of the open records act. Except as otherwise provided in this section, or in section 4 and amendments thereto the name of the person making the original report to the department of social and rehabilitation services or any person mentioned in such report shall not be disclosed unless the person making the original report specifically requests or agrees in writing to such disclosure or unless a judicial proceeding results therefrom. Except as otherwise provided in this section, no information contained in the register shall be made available to the public in such a manner as to identify individuals.
- (d) The secretary of social and rehabilitation services shall forward any finding of abuse, neglect or exploitation alleged to be committed by a provider of services licensed, registered or otherwise authorized to provide services in this state to the appropriate state authority which regulates such provider. The appropriate state regulatory authority may consider the finding in any disciplinary action taken with respect to the provider of services under the jurisdiction of such authority.
- (e) The department which investigates the report shall inform the complainant, upon request of the complainant, that an investigation has been made and, if the allegations of abuse, neglect or exploitation have been substantiated, that corrective measures will be taken.
- Sec. 6. K.S.A. 39-1411 is hereby amended to read as follows: 39-1411. (a) The secretary of health and environment shall maintain a register of the reports received and investigated by the department of health and environment under K.S.A. 39-1402 and 39-1403, and amendments to such sections, and the findings, evaluations and actions recommended by the partment with respect to such reports. The findings, evaluations and

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actions shall be subject to such notice and appeals procedures as may be adopted by rules and regulations of the secretary of health and environment, which rules and regulations shall be consistent with any requirements of state or federal law relating thereto except that the secretary shall not be required to conduct a hearing in cases forwarded to the appropriate state authority under subsection (b). The register shall be available for inspection by personnel of the department of health and environment as specified by the secretary of health and environment and to such other persons as may be required by federal law and designated by the secretary of health and environment by rules and regulations. Information from the register shall be provided as specified in section 4 and amendments thereto. The secretary of health and environment shall forward a copy of any report of abuse, neglect or exploitation of a resident of an adult care home to the secretary of aging.

- (b) The secretary of health and environment shall forward any finding of abuse, neglect or exploitation alleged to be committed by a provider of services licensed, registered or otherwise authorized to provide services in this state to the appropriate state authority which regulates such provider. The appropriate state regulatory authority, after notice to the alleged perpetrator and a hearing on such matter if requested by the alleged perpetrator, may consider the finding in any disciplinary action taken with respect to the provider of services under the jurisdiction of such authority. The secretary of health and environment may consider the finding of abuse, neglect or exploitation in any licensing action taken with respect to any adult care home or medical care facility under the jurisdiction of the secretary.
- (c) If the investigation of the department of health and environment indicates reason to believe that the resident is in need of protective services, that finding and all information relating to that finding shall be forwarded by the secretary of health and environment to the secretary of social and rehabilitation services.
- (d) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the report received by the department of health and environment and the written findings, evaluations and actions recommended shall be confidential and shall not be subject to the open records act. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the name of the person making the original report to the department of health and environment or any person mentioned in such report shall not be disclosed unless such person specifically requests or agrees in writing to such disclosure or unless a judicial or administrative proceeding results therefrom. In the event that an administrative or 'udicial action arises, no use of the information shall be made until the idge or presiding officer makes a specific finding, in writing, after a

hearing, that under all the circumstances the need for the information outweighs the need for confidentiality. Except as otherwise provided in this section, no information contained in the register shall be made available to the public in such a manner as to identify individuals.

Sec. 7. K.S.A. 39-1434 is hereby amended to read as follows: 39-1434. (a) The secretary of social and rehabilitation services shall maintain a statewide register of the reports, assessments received and the analyses, evaluations and the actions recommended. The register shall be available for inspection by personnel of the department of social and rehabilitation services.

Neither the report, assessment or the written evaluation analysis shall be deemed a public record or be subject to the provisions of the open records act. Except as provided in section 4 and amendments thereto, the name of the person making the original report or any person mentioned in such report shall not be disclosed unless the person making the original report specifically requests or agrees in writing to such disclosure or unless a judicial proceeding results therefrom. No information contained in the statewide register shall be made available to the public in such a manner as to identify individuals.