

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Tom Kessler at 9:10 am on Friday, February 14, 2025, in room 346-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Ken Corbet – Excused

Substitute members:

Representative Melissa Oropenza, appointed substitute member to the committee

Representative Megan Steele, appointed substitute member to the committee

Committee staff present:

Cheryl Baker, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant

Jordan Milholland, Legislative Research Department

Kate Smeltzer, Legislative Research Department

Mike Heim, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Drew Adkins, Commissioner for Behavioral Health Services, Kansas Department for Aging & Disability Services

Amy Campbell, Lobbyist, Kansas Mental Health Coalition

Patrick Schmitz, President & CEO Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center

Kyle Kessler, Executive Director, Association of Community Mental Health Centers of Kansas, Inc.

Molly Kemper, The Lotus House, Breakthrough House

Jessica Koen, Railway Clubhouse, Private Citizen

Emily Lamar, Reclamation Clubhouse member, Private Citizen

Andy Houlberg, CEO, Breakthrough Episcopal Social Services, Kansas Clubhouse Coalition

Miguel Tovar, Breakthrough Clubhouse member, Private Citizen

Others in attendance:

No list available

Request for bill introductions

The Chairman asked if there were any requests for bill introductions.

None were requested.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Federal and State Affairs at 9:10 am on Friday, February 14, 2025, in room 346-S of the Capitol.

Hearing on: HB2146 — Increasing transfers from the lottery operating fund, to the community crisis stabilization centers fund and the clubhouse model program fund of the Kansas department for aging and disability services.

Chairman Kessler opened the hearing on **HB2146**.

Mike Heim, Revisors Office of Statutes gave a summary([Attachment1](#)) of the amendment to the operating fund from Lottery sales.

Drew Adkins testified in support of **HB2146** ([Attachment2](#)) on behalf of the Kansas Department on Aging .

Amy Campbell testified in support of **HB2146** on behalf of Kansas Mental Health Coalition ([Attachment3](#)).

Patrick Schmitz provided supporting testimony on **HB2146** ([Attachment4](#)) regarding the honor to be the operator of the Treatment & Recovery Center of Douglas County (TRC), which was the first Crisis Intervention Center after legislation passed in 2017.

Kyle Kessler provided testimony in support of **HB2146** because Community Mental Health Centers (CMHCs) provide a model of care that provide "a port of calm" for patients([Attachment5](#)). The (CMHCs) in Kansas that provide behavioral health services in all 105 counties of Kansas.

Ms. Kemper introduced Trisha who participates in The Lotus House activities. Ms. Kemper testified in support of the bill which would extend the number of people helped by increasing the funding for Clubhouses. Clubhouses play a crucial role in increasing the number of employable adults in Kansas by equipping members with skills needed for the workforce ([Attachment6](#))

Jessica Koen provided testimony ([Attachment7](#)) about her two year journey in the Railway Clubhouse and the support given to her after spending years being bullied and avoiding school. She was diagnosed with a mental illness and the Clubhouse helped her by having a place to go to everyday and be connected to others in the community.

Ms. Lamar provided supporting testimony for **HB2146**([Attachment8](#)). Ms. Lamar testified that she spent years hiding from people and did not think she had anything to offer the world. Through Reclamation Clubhouse, she began engaging with others and was able to share her skills in a newsletter, grant writing, report writing, and teaching. She began to love the work-ordered day and the community surrounding her. It's been about four years since she was last hospitalized and she makes friends and engages in social activities.

Unless specifically noted, the individual remarks recorded herein have not been transcribed verbatim. Individual remarks as reported herein have not been submitted to the individuals appearing before the committee for editing or corrections.

CONTINUATION SHEET

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Andy Houlberg, CEO Breakthrough Episcopal Social Services, of the Kansas Clubhouse Coalition ask for a substantial increase in the Clubhouse model([Attachment9](#)). He testified that one in twenty United States adults experience serious mental illness. The requested monies would enhance the Clubhouse model across Kansas. The fiscal year cost in 2023 was approximately \$3,100 annually per person.

Mr. Tovar testified that he received support, friendship, and set goals for his future as a Clubhouse Member and as staff. His testimony in support of **HB2146** is due in part to the safety he felt when going to the clubhouse. When he first arrived, he was welcomed and pulled into the community. The clubhouse model helped him with coping mechanisms for his anxiety as well as his depression and he was named head gardener of a pilot program to grow foods that can be used in the clubhouse.

The Chairman reminded the committee that Written Only proponent testimony is attached for review.

- Austin Hanson, West Ridge Mall Facilities & Site Security Director([Attachment10](#)).
- Tenisha Johnson, Milestone Clubhouse ([Attachment11](#)).
- Liz Largent, Petland Topeka([Attachment12](#)).

The Chairman closed the hearing on **HB2146**.

Final action on: SCR1602 — Encouraging the governor to fully cooperate with federal enforcement of immigration laws.

The Chairman opened Final Action for **SCR1602**.

Mike Heim, Office of the Revisor of Statutes, gave a briefing on **SCR1602**. The Concurrent Resolution where the Legislature encourages the Governor to cooperate with the immigration laws brought by the Trump administration.

*Representative Schmoe moved, Representative Sanders seconded to pass **SCR1602** favorably for passage. Motion carried.*

A roll call was requested. There were seven nays and fifteen yeas.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Federal and State Affairs at 9:10 am on Friday, February 14, 2025, in room 346-S of the Capitol.

Representatives requesting their nay vote be recorded include Representative S. Ruiz, Representative Mosley, Representative Martinez, Representative Miller, Representative L. Ruiz, Representative Osman, and Representative Clayton.

Representative Sanders and Representative Waggoner requested their yes vote recorded.

Final action on: HB2164 — Authorizing persons who are 20 years of age or older to apply for certification as a police officer or law enforcement officer under the Kansas law enforcement training act.

Chairman opened the Final Action on **HB2164**.

Mike Heim gave a briefing of **HB2164**. This bill amends the law enforcement training act be changed to age 20.

*Representative Schmoe moved, Representative James seconded to pass **HB2164** favorably for passage. Motion carried.*

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 10:26 am.