

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Sandy Praeger at 10:00 a.m. on January 12, 2000 in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present:

Norman Furse, Revisor of Statutes  
Lisa Montgomery, Revisor of Statutes  
Hank Avila, Legislative Research Department  
JoAnn Buntten, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Janet Schalansky, Secretary, Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services

Others attending: See attached list

### **Introductions**

Senator Praeger opened the Committee meeting with introduction of committee members and staff.

### **Briefing**

Janet Schalansky, Secretary, SRS, briefed the Committee on the reorganization of the state's Social and Rehabilitation Services agency and the Medicaid program. Secretary Schalansky noted that highlights of the reorganization of SRS included a streamlined management structure and leadership team which now reflects the interconnections between service areas of SRS. She felt the changes would shift the focus of the agency from funding streams to supporting processes and functions within SRS, and that the new leadership structure would align agency management with the functions of service delivery, policy development, and operational support. She noted that one of the most notable organizational changes had been made within the Medical Policy/Medicaid Program. Formerly the Adult and Medical Services Commission, the program is now located within the Division of Health Care Policy. Secretary Schalansky also briefed the Committee on home and community based services waivers for the physically disabled and developmentally disabled, HealthWave - the state's version of the Children's Health Insurance Program, elimination of optional medical services for the medically needy, establishment of a task force to study the closure of the Rainbow Mental Health facility, and the need for children's services at the Larned Mental Health facility as noted in her written testimony. (Attachment 1) During Committee discussion, Secretary Schalansky outlined the eligibility requirement for children in the HealthWave program. She noted there are currently 15,222 children enrolled in the program which is credited to outreach efforts in the schools. An additional 17,092 new children are also on Medicaid.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 13, 2000.