

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 19, 2000 in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present:

Lisa Montgomery, Revisor of Statutes
Hank Avila, Legislative Research Department
JoAnn Buntun, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Larry Froelich, Executive Director, Kansas Board of Pharmacy
Janet Schalansky, nominee for Secretary of Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services
Connie Hubbell, nominee for Secretary of Kansas Department on Aging

Others attending: See attached list

Introduction of Bills

Larry Froelich, Executive Director, Kansas State Board of Pharmacy, requested the Committee introduce legislation that would (1) make changes to the Kansas Pharmacy Practice Act to allow the Investigative Committee of the Board the authority to maintain information regarding the licensee or registrant as confidential regarding a complaint until the entire process has been completed, and (2) make changes in the Kansas Controlled Substances Act that would reflect changes the DEA has done since the last legislative session. (Attachment 1) Senator Salmans made a motion the Committee introduce the proposed legislation, seconded by Senator Hardenburger. The motion carried.

Senator Praeger requested the Committee introduce legislation that would exempt hair braiding from regulations of the Board of Cosmetology. Senator Steineger made a motion the Committee introduce the proposed legislation, seconded by Senator Langworthy. The motion carried.

Confirmation hearings

Janet Schalansky, having been appointed to the position of Secretary of the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services by the governor presented testimony to the Committee at the confirmation hearing regarding her background, organizational changes within the agency, and goals for the future of SRS as outlined in her written testimony. (Attachment 2) Committee discussion related to substance abuse and treatment programs, adequate data needed for these programs, children's unit at Larned State Hospital, protection of children and children's rights, Rainbow Mental Health facility, and the status of the foster care program.

Connie Hubbell, having been appointed to the position of Secretary of the Kansas Department on Aging by the governor briefed the Committee at the confirmation hearing on her background, programs within the agency and goals for the future as outlined in her written testimony. (Attachment 3) Committee discussion related to the need for greater cooperation between agencies in regard to nursing home regulations, improving quality of care for the elderly, and the need for more nursing home volunteers.

Senator Langworthy made a motion the Committee recommend to the full Senate the name of Janet Schalansky for Secretary of the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services, seconded by Senator Steineger. The motion carried.

Senator Steineger made a motion the Committee recommend to the full Senate the name of Connie Hubbell for Secretary of the Department on Aging, seconded by Senator Hardenburger. The motion carried.

Adjournment

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

The next meeting is scheduled for January 20, 2000.