

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 March 20, 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:

Eric Jager, nominee for member of University of Kansas Hospital Authority  
Charlie Sunderland, nominee for member of University of Kansas Hospital Authority

Others attending: See attached list

### **Confirmation Hearings**

Eric Jager, having been nominated by the governor for membership on the University of Kansas Hospital Authority, presented testimony to the Committee at the confirmation hearing on his background and interest in the KUMC. Mr. Jager noted that this appointment is of particular interest to him because of the challenge the entire health care arena is facing and the rapidly evolving structure of the health care industry. (Attachment 1)

Charlie Sunderland, having been nominated by the governor for membership on the University of Kansas Hospital Authority, presented testimony to the Committee at the confirmation hearing on his background and interest in good health care. He noted that the process of health care delivery in this country is a major interest to him as an employer responsible for health care coverage for nearly 3000 active employees and their 5000 dependents. (Attachment 2)

During Committee discussion it was agreed that the two nominees had excellent business backgrounds and vital interests in keeping the KUMC a teaching hospital in the inner city, promoting Kansas City as a center for medical research, and strengthening communications with area hospitals in order to meet the challenges of a rapidly changing health care industry.

Senator Langworthy made a motion that the Committee recommend Eric Jager and Charlie Sunderland to the full Senate as nominees for membership on the University of Kansas Hospital Authority, seconded by Senator Becker. The motion carried.

### **Committee Discussion**

The Chair noted that she would consult with Larry Buening, Executive Director, Kansas Board of Healing Arts, and have him clarify and define the limited scope of practice of naturopathy. It was suggested by a member of the Committee that there needed to be alternative medicines available for use by the general population, and another member suggested the issue of naturopathy be reviewed and studied by NCSL. Information on "The Placebo - A sugar pill for the mildly depressed" was distributed to the Committee. (Attachment 3)

### **Adjournment**

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

The next meeting is scheduled for March 21, 2000.