

MINUTES OF THE SENATE FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND INSURANCE COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ruth Teichman at 9:30 A.M. on January 10, 2007 in Room 234-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except Senator Wysong.

Committee staff present:

Melissa Calderwood, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Terri Weber, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Ken Wilke, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Bev Beam, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Others attending:

See attached list.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The Chair presented the agenda for January. She said during the month of January she would like Bill Introductions on Thursday; however, the Committee will not meet on the second Thursdays of the month unless it is absolutely necessary. For that reason, the committee will have informational meetings on Mondays. No bill votes will be taken on Mondays.

Senator Teichman informed the committee that the paperwork allowing the appointment of Tom Thull as State Banking Commissioner is in the Governor's Office. She will inform the committee when a confirmation hearing will be held.

Tuesday, January 16, has been tentatively set to have Insurance Commissioner, Sandy Praeger, address the Committee about the findings of the Uninsured Motorist Task Force. The Task Force met in December and January. The Commissioner will update the committee on the Interstate Insurance compact that was passed several years ago. We are now part of that compact, she said.

On Thursday, January 11, Senator Steineger, Senator Wysong, myself and the House Financial Insurance & Financial Institution chair will meet with the Insurance Commissioner, Senator Teichman said. The Commissioner will give us her initiatives. Half the bills introduced will start in each House.

On Wednesday, January 17, the committee will look at the Massachusetts Plan. "I think it is important for us to know what is going on in other states," the chair said. The Massachusetts Plan will also be looked at by Dr. Barnett's Task Force. Since it is an insurance plan, it is important that we understand what insurance plans are being considered. Also on January 17, the committee will look at the Governor's 0-5 Initiative for health coverage.

January 18, Carmen Alldritt, Kansas Department of Revenue, will give an overview of the REAL ID Act.

Jim McClean from the Kansas Health Institute will talk to us about what they are doing with their initiatives and give us an overview on Monday, January 22.

On Tuesday, January 23, the committee will discuss the identity theft bill passed last session. That bill did not go through the committee, but it did go through conference committee. It was one of those things that only a few got to see, so we'll have an overview of the identity theft bill. We will also be looking at the Gift Card bill to see if there is anything we would like to discuss. Also, interchange fees for credit cards are an issue at the national level that are going to be looked at.

January 24, there will be a briefing from the Legislative Post Audit on the Credit Union Report from last year. The bankers and credit unions will be asked to give their views.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE Senate Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee at 9:30 A.M. on January 10, 2007 in Room 234-N of the Capitol.

Senator Steineger suggested the committee be briefed on the California Health Plan when more details become available.

Senator Brownlee suggested the committee address a concern brought to her by parade sponsors and others in her district regarding increased insurance liability costs. "The issue of additional insured" has become very costly. Senator Steineger voiced similar concerns he had heard.

Senator Brungardt said the state of Maine has a health insurance plan called "Dirigo" that they have been working on. He suggested the committee take a look at their plan.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.