

## 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 February 2, 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  
JoAnn Buntun, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:  
Marlee Bertholf, Kansas Chamber of Commerce  
Joe Cecil, Family Health Partners  
Joy Wheeler, FirstGuard

Others attending: See attached list

### **Introduction of Bills**

Marlee Bertholf, Kansas Chamber of Commerce, requested the Committee introduce legislation relating to pharmacy technicians under the Board of Pharmacy. (Attachment 1) Senator Becker made a motion the Committee introduce the proposed legislation, seconded by Senator Salmans. The motion carried.

Senator Praeger requested the Committee introduce legislation relating to the Health Care Data Governing Board collecting data from health care providers and hospitals. Senator Becker made a motion the Committee introduce the proposed legislation, seconded by Senator Jones. The motion carried.

Senator Praeger requested the Committee introduce legislation that would expand the Health Care Data Governing Board from 9 to 12 members. Senator Becker made a motion the Committee introduce the proposed legislation, seconded by Senator Langworthy. The motion carried.

### **Update on Children's Health Insurance Program (HealthWave)**

Joe Cecil, Family Health Partners, briefed the Committee on HealthWave's HMO for Eastern, Kansas. Mr. Cecil noted that as of January 1, 2000, there are 5,575 persons enrolled in the program in the eastern region. Outreach sponsored by community grassroots groups and SRS has been effective in reaching many potentially eligible persons throughout the 22 counties. HealthWave administration, complaints and grievances, benefits and HealthWave integration with Medicaid were outlined for the Committee as noted in his written testimony. (Attachment 2) Committee discussion related to drug utilization for recipients, disease management program, dental access and reimbursement rates, transportation network and interaction with Maximus.

Joy Wheeler briefed the Committee on FirstGuard, HealthWave's HMO covering the remainder of Kansas. Ms. Wheeler noted membership status in the program now totals approximately 34,300 persons with an additional 158 physicians added to the network within the past year. Other topics covered during her presentation included website availability of the program, provider services, Guardian Angel program, asthma disease management program, and outreach services. Plans for the year 2000 include third party liability recovery, fraud and abuse provider education and diabetes management program.

### **Adjournment**

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

The next meeting is scheduled for February 3, 2000.