

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE KANSAS FUTURES COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Carlos Mayans at 1:30 p.m. on January 22, 2002 in Room 526-S of the State Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative Gene O'Brien - excused
Representative Mike O'Neal - excused
Representative Gerry Ray - excused
Representative Jerry Williams - excused

Committee staff present: April Holman, Legislative Research Department
Becky Krahl, Legislative Research Department
Sherman Parks, Jr., Revisor of Statutes' Office
Lois Hedrick, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: None.

Others attending: See attached list

Chairman Mayans welcomed everyone, especially Representative Toelkes (newly-assigned member) and newly-assigned staff members Sherman Parks and Becky Krahl.

The Chairman described discussions between himself, Speaker of the House Glasscock, and Representatives Bethell and Sloan, and as a result they are proposing legislation concerning three issues: (1) tax credits dealing with housing (affordable or universal design); (2) tax credits for long-term-care and caregivers; (3) implementing a high school one-hour credit course to educate young students about senior issues, such as long-term-care. In April, members and staff will be invited to attend a conference with national speakers on senior issues, being promoted by the Department on Aging. (4) The Chairman also indicated bills on health issues now assigned to other committees may be reassigned to this committee, as well as new legislation. Committee members are encouraged to bring forth legislation for introduction by this committee.

Department on Aging Secretary Connie Hubbell is being invited to appear Thursday to present an overview and update of the Department's activities. Tentatively, she will appear on Thursday, January 24.

Vice-Chairman Bethell briefed the committee on newly-recommended bills, which would provide: (1) income tax credits for long-term-care health insurance premiums; (2) establish and finance a pilot tele-medicine and tele-health center at the University of Kansas Medical Center; and (3) establish a Citizens Insurance Advisory Board, similar to the Utilities Advisory Board. A conceptual motion was made by Representative Bethell, seconded by Representative Sloan, that the committee introduce the three proposed bills. The motion carried.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 24, 2002.

