

HOUSE BILL No. 2058

By Health Care Reform Legislative Oversight Committee

1-18

AN ACT concerning the health care reform legislative oversight committee; amending K.S.A. 46-2507 and repealing the existing section.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. K.S.A. 46-2507 is hereby amended to read as follows: 46-2507. (a) Health care reform for all Kansans is a matter of general public interest. It is a matter that should be addressed by those persons elected by the voters to make public policy. The prospect of federal legislation affecting state laws and regulations requires that the state have the legislative and administrative expertise to promptly make the necessary adjustments in both laws and regulations as required by federal law. Further, regardless of the federal proposal enacted, each such proposal relies ultimately on the state for implementation in the crucial areas of insurance reform, quality assurance, availability of service and administrative structure to implement the reform program. The legislature must be prepared to respond timely but deliberately to safeguard the public health and welfare of all Kansans.

(b) There is hereby created the health care reform legislative oversight committee, hereinafter "committee," to oversee the necessary changes in state laws and regulations made necessary by federal law and, to the fullest extent possible, implement health care reform specific to Kansas needs.

(1) The committee shall be composed of 12 members of the legislature appointed as follows: Three members of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives; three members of the house of representatives appointed by the minority leader of the house of representatives; three members of the senate appointed by the president of the senate; and three members of the senate appointed by the minority leader of the senate. The president of the senate shall designate a senator member to be chairperson of the committee as provided in this section. The speaker of the house of representatives shall designate a representative member to be chairperson of the committee as provided in this section. The minority leader of the senate shall designate a senate member to be vice-chairperson of the committee as provided in this section. The minority leader of the house of representatives

1 shall designate a representative member to be vice-chairperson of the
2 committee as provided in this section. The secretary of health and envi-
3 ronment, the secretary of social and rehabilitation services, the director
4 of the budget and the commissioner of insurance shall be advisors to the
5 committee.

6 (2) A quorum of the committee shall be seven. All actions of the
7 committee may be taken by a majority of those present when there is a
8 quorum. In even-numbered years the chairperson of the committee shall
9 be the designated member of the senate from the convening of the reg-
10 ular session of that year until the convening of the regular session of the
11 next ensuing year. In odd-numbered years, the chairperson of the com-
12 mittee shall be the designated member of the house of representatives
13 from the convening of the regular session in that year until the convening
14 of the regular session in the next ensuing year. In even-numbered years,
15 the vice-chairperson of the committee shall be the designated member
16 of the house of representatives from the convening of the regular session
17 in that year until the convening of the regular session in the next ensuing
18 year. In odd-numbered years, the vice-chairperson of the committee shall
19 be the designated member of the senate from the convening of the reg-
20 ular session of that year until the convening of the regular session of the
21 next ensuing year. The vice-chairperson shall exercise all of the powers
22 of the chairperson in the absence of the chairperson.

23 (3) The committee shall be designated a standing joint committee of
24 the legislature and shall have such powers and duties as hereinafter pro-
25 vided. Funding of operations of the committee shall be made from mon-
26 eys appropriated to the legislature and expenditures of the committee
27 shall be approved by the legislative coordinating council. Administrative
28 support for the committee shall be provided by the division of legislative
29 administrative services.

30 (4) The health care reform legislative oversight committee shall meet
31 on call of the chairperson as authorized by the legislative coordinating
32 council. All such meetings shall be held in Topeka unless authorized to
33 be held in a different place by the legislative coordinating council. Mem-
34 bers of the committee shall receive compensation and travel expenses
35 and subsistence expenses or allowances as provided in K.S.A. 75-3212
36 and amendments thereto, when attending meetings of such committee
37 authorized by the legislative coordinating council.

38 (c) The health care reform legislative oversight committee shall:

39 (1) Examine changes in federal laws affecting Kansas and propose
40 such changes in Kansas laws and regulations as are necessary to meet the
41 federal requirements.

42 (2) Cooperate and interact with agencies of the federal government
43 responsible for health care reform.

1 (3) Consider all health care financing and delivery options now in
2 effect taking into account the actions of other states and the federal
3 government.

4 (4) Work cooperatively with all relevant state and federal agencies,
5 health care providers, payors and consumer groups in the development
6 of an integrated health plan for all Kansans.

7 (5) Receive, analyze and make recommendations related to the state
8 health care data base developed by the health care data governing board.

9 (6) Develop plans for health care cost containment.

10 (7) Study and make recommendations for legislative action to inte-
11 grate health care financing and coverage with other states.

12 (8) Recommend legislative actions necessary to assure accessibility of
13 services to residents of underserved areas.

14 (9) Provide recommendations if federal or state laws require inclu-
15 sion of the medical care component of workers compensation and auto-
16 mobile insurance into all inclusive health care coverage.

17 (10) Make recommendations on tort reform for medical liability and
18 for state antitrust reform and federal antitrust modifications.

19 (d) The committee may appoint advisory subcommittees as it deems
20 appropriate but shall at least name the following:

21 (1) Administrative subcommittee. This subcommittee shall be com-
22 posed of the secretary of health and environment, the secretary of social
23 and rehabilitation services, the secretary of aging, the director of the
24 budget and such other state or local governmental agency officials as are
25 named by the committee.

26 (2) Insurance subcommittee. This subcommittee shall be composed
27 of the commissioner of insurance, a representative of a domestic insur-
28 ance carrier, a representative of a foreign insurance company, a repre-
29 sentative of the managed care industry and such others as are named by
30 the committee.

31 (3) Employer subcommittee. This subcommittee shall be composed
32 of a representative of statewide business organization having large and
33 small employer members, a representative of an organization having only
34 small employer members, a representative of organized labor and such
35 other members as are named by the committee.

36 (4) Provider subcommittee. This subcommittee shall be composed of
37 a representative of a statewide physicians group, a statewide nursing
38 group, a statewide hospital group and such other provider groups as are
39 named by the committee.

40 (5) Consumer subcommittee. This subcommittee shall be composed
41 of representatives of consumers of health care in this state as are named
42 by the committee.

43 (e) All subcommittees shall meet and report at the direction of the

1 committee, but in no event shall the subcommittees report less than quar-
2 terly. All meetings shall be subject to the Kansas open meetings act. Mem-
3 bers of the advisory subcommittees shall not be paid compensation, sub-
4 sistence allowances, mileage or other expenses as otherwise may be
5 authorized by law for attending meetings of the advisory subcommittees.

6 (f) The committee may introduce legislation.

7 (g) All officers and employees of the state shall provide such infor-
8 mation and assistance as may be deemed necessary by the committee.
9 Staff assistance shall be provided by the office of the revisor of statutes,
10 the legislative research department and such other legislative offices and
11 employees as may be directed by the legislative coordinating council.

12 (h) The department of health and environment is hereby designated
13 the contact agency for the state of Kansas with reference to federal health
14 care reform measures. The department of health and environment shall
15 not make any decision with reference to federal health care reform meas-
16 ures not otherwise authorized by the legislature or which would be in-
17 consistent with existing law.

18 ~~(i) The provisions of this section shall expire on July 1, 2001.~~

19 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 46-2507 is hereby repealed.

20 Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
21 publication in the statute book.

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