SENATE BILL No. 146

By Committee on Judiciary

1-31

9 AN ACT concerning medical malpractice screening panels; amending 10 K.S.A. 65-4907 and repealing the existing section.

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

Section 1. K.S.A. 65-4907 is hereby amended to read as follows: 65-4907. (a) Each health care provider member of the screening panel shall be paid a total of \$250 for all work performed as a member of the panel exclusive of time involved if called as a witness to testify in court, and in addition thereto, reasonable travel expense. The chairperson of the panel shall be paid a total of no less than \$500 or such amount as the court finds fairly compensates the chairperson for all work performed as a member of the panel exclusive of time involved if called as a witness to testify in court, and in addition thereto reasonable travel expenses. In determining the amount of compensation for the chairperson the court shall consider the record of time and the usual hourly rate charged for the attorney's services. The chairperson shall keep an accurate record of the time and expenses of all the members of the panel, and the record shall be submitted to the parties for payment with the panel's report.

- (b) Costs of the panel including travel expenses and other expenses of the review shall be paid by the side in whose favor the majority opinion is written. If the panel is unable to make a recommendation, then each side shall pay ½ of the costs. Items which may be included in the taxation of costs shall be those items enumerated by K.S.A. 60-2003 and amendments thereto.
- Sec. 2. K.S.A. 65-4907 is hereby repealed.
- Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.