Health Care Provider Insurance Availability Act—Amendments; Defined "Healthcare Provider"; Ineligible Facilities; HB 2325

HB 2325 amends the Health Care Provider Insurance Availability Act to add certain maternity centers to the definition of "health care provider" and to add facilities where elective abortions are performed to the list of entities that are not health care providers as defined in the bill, which would make such facilities ineligible to purchase professional liability insurance from the Health Care Stabilization Fund (Fund).

The bill requires a maternity center participating in the Fund (professional liability coverage) to have accreditation by the Commission for Accreditation of Birth Centers and meet the licensure definition for maternity center (KSA 65-503). [Note: Under this licensure definition, a "maternity center" is a facility that provides delivery services for normal, uncomplicated pregnancies but does not include a medical care facility, as defined by KSA 65-425.]

The bill also makes technical amendments to reorganize provisions listing professionals and facilities subject to the requirement of participation in the Fund.

The bill requires that facilities where elective abortions are performed would be deemed ineligible to purchase professional liability insurance from the Fund. [Note: The statutory reference describing these facilities is assumed to refer to the facilities where elective abortions are performed as listed in Section 1 of the bill.] The facilities would need to maintain continuous professional liability insurance coverage equivalent to that provided by the Fund as a condition of licensure and to submit satisfactory proof of such coverage to the Fund's Board of Governors, which administers the Fund and advises the appropriate licensing and disciplinary authorities regarding the qualifications of health care providers.