

GOOD MORNING. TODAY IS THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2021. I AM DEANGELA BURNS-WALLACE, SECRETARY OF ADMINISTRATION AND CHAIRPERSON OF THE STATE EMPLOYEES HEALTH CARE COMMISSION. THE HEALTH CARE COMMISSION IS CONVENED TODAY FOR THE PURPOSE OF HOLDING A PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE COMMENTS ON AMENDMENTS TO KANSAS ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS 108-1-1, 108-1-3 AND 108-1-4, WHICH WOULD ELIMINATE THE 30-DAY WAITING PERIOD FOR ELIGIBILITY TO THE HEALTH CARE BENEFITS PLAN. THIS HEARING IS BEING CONVENED AT 9:00 A.M. IN THE KPERS BOARD ROOM LOCATED AT 611 S. KANSAS AVE., TOPEKA, KS, AS WELL AS BEING HELD VIA GOTO WEBINAR.

THIS MATTER WAS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON JUNE 17, 2021 THROUGH A PUBLIC NOTICE OF HEARING PUBLISHED ON APRIL 8, 2021, IN THE *KANSAS REGISTER*. THE PUBLIC HEARING WAS RESCHEDULED TO TODAY'S DATE THROUGH A PUBLIC NOTICE OF HEARING PUBLISHED ON JULY 1, 2021, IN THE *KANSAS REGISTER*.

NOTICE IS PROVIDED REGARDING PROPOSED CHANGES TO BE FILED WITH COURTNEY FITZGERALD OF THE STATE EMPLOYEE HEALTH CARE WITH A POST EMAIL OR AN EMAIL ADDRESS THAT WAS PROVIDED.

DUE TO THE COVID PANDEMIC, THIS MEETING IS HELD IN PERSON AND VIA GO TO WEBINAR AS SET FORTH IN THE NOTICE OF HEARINGS.

INDIVIDUALS WANTING TO REGISTER TO PARTICIPATE AND PROVIDE COMMENT VIA GO TO WEBINAR WERE REQUESTED TO REGISTER VIA THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING.

PROPOSED AMENDED REGULATION WOULD PROVIDE FOR THE ELIMINATION OF THE 30-DAY WAITING PERIOD FOR ELIGIBILITY TO THE HEALTH CARE BENEFITS PLAN AND WAS INITIALLY PROPOSED AND APPROVED BY THE HEALTH CARE COMMISSION.

THE PROPOSED AMENDED REGULATION AND THE ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENTS FOR EACH WERE AVAILABLE FOR THE STATE EMPLOYEE HEALTH AS INDICATED IN THE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING.

THE PURPOSE OF THE HEARING IS TO RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE 30-DAY WAITING PERIOD FOR ELIGIBILITY TO THE HEALTH CARE BENEFITS PLAN.

THIS IS NOT A FORM FOR DEBATE OR DISCUSSION OF THE PROPOSED AMENDED REGULATION OR FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PROPOSED REGULATION OR ANY OTHER ISSUES.

THE PROPOSED REGULATION AND ANY OTHER ISSUES CAN BE DISCUSSED WITH PROGRAM STAFF AFTER THIS HEARING.

WE WILL RECEIVE ORAL COMMENT FROM THE PEOPLE HERE IN THE BOARD ROOM.

THAT WILL BE FOLLOWED BY ANY INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS REGISTERED TO PROVIDE COMMENT VIA GO TO WEBINAR.

UPON BEING RECOGNIZED, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO PRESENT ANY COMMENT RELATED TO THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT REGULATION THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE CONSIDERED.

EACH INDIVIDUAL WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT THEIR ORAL COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED AMENDED REGULATION.

AS YOU BEGIN YOUR PRESENTATION, PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND ANY AFFILIATION.

WE ARE NOW OPEN TO PUBLIC COMMENT FOR THOSE IN THE ROOM.

>> WE DO NOT SEE ANYONE PRESENT FOR COMMENT IN THE ROOM AT THIS TIME.

BUT WE WILL NOW CHECK FOR ANY REGISTERED INDIVIDUALS FOR THE GO TO -- ON THE GO TO WEBINAR.

DID WE HAVE ANY INDIVIDUALS THAT PREREGISTERED?

IT'S BEING INDICATED THERE ARE NO PRE-REGISTERED INDIVIDUALS.

>> NON PRE-REGISTERED?

>> NO ONE.

>> MADAM CHAIR?

USUALLY IF NO ONE IS PRESENT WE GIVE ABOUT A TEN MINUTES FROM THE STARTING OF THE MEETING TO ALLOW ANYONE WHO MIGHT BE LATE TO SHOW.

I SHOW WE STARTED AT 9:04.

IF WE WANTED TO WAIT A FEW MORE MINUTES TO SEE IF ANYONE HAD TROUBLE PARKING OR ANYTHING TO SHOW UP HERE AND I DON'T KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT TECHNOLOGY IF ANYONE CAN REGISTER AT THIS POINT.

I WOULD LEAVE THAT UP TO COURTNEY AS TO WHETHER ANYONE CAN REGISTER AT THIS POINT TO MAKE COMMENT.

>> SO WE STILL HAVE THE EMAIL UP AND AVAILABLE IF SOMEONE WANTS TO EMAIL IN TO REGISTER TO BE RECOGNIZED VIRTUALLY AND THEN WE WILL WAIT FOR AN ADDITIONAL TEN MINUTES TO ENSURE IF ANYONE NEEDS TO -- THAT WILL PRESENT THEMSELVES PUBLICLY.

SO THANK YOU.

>> SO PEOPLE CAN HEAR ME, BY THAT CLOCK OVER TO YOUR LEFT, WHICH IS THE ONE I WAS GOING BY, 9:04, IT'S NOW 9:19 WHICH HAS BEEN 15 MINUTES SINCE THE ACTUAL -- YOU CALLED THE HEARING TO ORDER FOR THE PUBLIC HEARING.

I THINK YOU CAN MOVE FORWARD AT THIS POINT.

>> RIGHT.

OUR PUBLIC HEARING HAS BEEN OPEN FOR APPROXIMATELY 15 MINUTES PER LEGAL COUNSEL.

WE DO NOT HAVE ANYONE PRESENT IN THE ROOM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND AS I VERIFY, WE DO NOT HAVE ANYONE WHO REGISTERED DURING THIS WAITING PERIOD, EITHER --

>> NO ONE IS REGISTERED OR EMAILED TO PARTICIPATE SINCE WE CAME ON THE AIR AS WELL.

I BELIEVE FOR THE RECORD, THERE WAS APPROXIMATELY 100 PEOPLE ONLINE SO THERE WERE PLENTY OF PEOPLE WHO COULD HAVE -- IF THEY WANTED TO COMMENT, THEY COULD HAVE ASKED TO REGISTER AND PUT FORWARD COMMENTS.

>> THANK YOU.

SEEING NO COMMENTS THIS MORNING, ONE REMINDER, IF YOU DO HAVE WRITTEN COMMENTS TO SUBMIT AND HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO, YOU ARE ABLE TO PROVIDE THOSE WRITTEN COMMENTS WITH STAFF BY SUBMITTING AN EMAIL TO COURTNEY FITZGERALD AND IT IS COURTNEY.FITZGERALD AT KS.GOV, THE SAME EMAIL IN THE PUBLIC NOTICE FOR PREREGISTERING.

THE COMMENT PERIOD FOR THIS REGULATION EXPIRES AT 5:00 P.M.

TODAY SO IF YOU WERE TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENT, IT MUST BE RECEIVED AT THAT EMAIL BY 5:00 P.M. TODAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2021 TO BE A PART OF THE OFFICIAL RECORD.

WITH THAT, I MOVE TO -- THIS HEARING, THIS PUBLIC HEARING IS ADJOURNED AT 9:21 A.M., SEPTEMBER 9, 2021.

THANK YOU ALL