

Coordinating health & health care
for a thriving Kansas



For immediate release:
February 5, 2008

Barb Langner, Director of Policy
785.291.3310

Farmer Announced As New State Employee Health Benefits Plan Director

Topeka, Kan. -- The Kansas Health Policy Authority (KHPA) is pleased to announce Doug Farmer as the new Director for the State Employee Health Benefits Plan (SEHBP). Farmer has resigned his current post as the Chief of Staff to the Attorney General of Kansas to accept the position with the KHPA.

As SEHBP Director, Farmer will manage all aspects of the Kansas State Employee Health Benefits Plan which includes the State Employees Health Plan Operations, Design and Fiscal Management; State Self-Insurance Workers Compensation; Membership Services; and Health and Wellness Management. In total, these programs provide benefits for 90,000 covered lives, including state employees, retirees, and non-state plan members, with total value exceeding \$400 million annually.

Farmer brings with him a strong reputation for leadership and innovation in Kansas State Government. He began as a Senior Analyst in the Governor's Budget Office reviewing the public safety and economic development agencies and serving on the Consensus Revenue Estimating Group. He then moved to the Kansas Department on Aging as Commissioner of Finance, and then as Assistant Secretary, where he oversaw the Department's transition from 120 employees to more than 200 as it absorbed responsibilities for Medicaid Nursing Home and Waiver payments as well as nursing home inspection and regulation. Later he served as Deputy Secretary of the Department of Health and Environment under Secretary Rod Bremby, where he oversaw the development and implementation of the agency's first comprehensive strategic plan and worked to consolidate administrative functions that had remained separate since Health and Environment were combined into a single agency in 1975.

Farmer earned his undergraduate degree in Political Science from the University of California at Davis, and a Master of Public Administration from James Madison University. Originally from San Jose, California, he now resides in Topeka with his wife, Stacey, and their two young sons, Oliver and Elliot.

Farmer will begin his employment with KHPA in early March. SEHBP Senior Manager Mike Michael had been serving as the Acting Deputy Director of SEHBP; he has now been appointed as the Deputy Director of SEHBP.

###

Rm. 900-N, Landon Building, 900 SW Jackson Street, Topeka, KS 66612-1220

www.khpa.ks.gov

Medicaid and HealthWave:
Phone: 785-296-3981
Fax: 785-296-4813

State Employee Health
Benefits and Plan Purchasing:
Phone: 785-368-6361
Fax: 785-368-7180

State Self Insurance Fund:
Phone: 785-296-2364
Fax: 785-296-6995