

Testimony to the House Committee on Government Efficiency and Technology
From
Robin J. Kempf, Inspector General
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Overview of the Kansas Health Policy Authority Office of Inspector General

Good afternoon, Chairman Morrison and Committee members. My name is Robin Kempf. I am the first and newly appointed Inspector General of the Kansas Health Policy Authority (KHPA). I would like to thank the Chair for inviting me to provide the Committee with an overview of the KHPA Office of Inspector General (OIG). For your information, in addition to this testimony, I am providing you with a copy of my annual report, which I presented to the KHPA Board yesterday.

I was appointed to the position of Inspector General by the KHPA Board on September 17, 2007 and approved for confirmation by the Senate Confirmation Oversight Committee on Oct. 16, 2007. I am very excited as I begin my work to establish the first statutorily created Office of Inspector General in Kansas.

As you know, the KHPA OIG was created last session as part of a larger health care reform bill, 2007 Senate Bill (SB) 11. The OIG was created in SB 11 § 15 and is codified at K.S.A. 75-7427. Frankly, I consider the creation of an independent oversight body with the authority to review and investigate the performance of KHPA's delivery of health services is a significant step in reforming public health care in the state of Kansas.

My goal is to create a professional government evaluation office that is a source of relevant, credible, useful information, which will provide the KHPA Board, KHPA management and the Legislature good guidance in their decisions. Although I am proud to have the opportunity to contribute to the important effort of improving government and health care, starting a new governmental office can be a daunting task. Nevertheless, I hope that I will be able to report great success from my office in a year's time.

I would like to highlight some of the information in my annual report for you at this time, but first, I would like to thank you again for the opportunity to appear before you today.