

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Local Media Invited to Attend Long-Term Care Academy**

(WICHITA) – Members of the media are invited to attend policy briefings on long-term care led by House Appropriations Committee Chairman Melvin Neufeld and featuring Center for Long-Term Care Reform President Stephen Moses.

Long-term care is expected to be an important agenda item for state legislature this coming year. Long-term care benefits currently account for almost 50% of Kansas' Medicaid costs, and long-term care costs are projected to grow.

Neufeld and Moses will discuss the role that long-term care plays in Kansas' health care crisis, its impact on the state budget and delivery of state services, possible reform solutions and additional related topics as a part of the Legislative Long-Term Care Academy sponsored by the Kansas Health Care Association (KHCA) and co-sponsored by the Flint Hills Center for Public Policy.

"One of the most critical agenda items we will tackle next year is the state budget and a key component of that budget is Medicaid funding," said Representative Neufeld.

Moses will explain how Medicaid is utilized to finance nursing home care for many seniors who could have financed such care themselves. This is, in part, due to Medicaid's rules. "For people over the age of 65 who have medical need for nursing-home-level care, Medicaid's eligibility rules -- contrary to conventional wisdom -- are very loose," according to Moses.

Academy sessions begin at 9:30 a.m., continue over a working lunch and conclude at 1:00 p.m. Academy locations and dates are as follows:

September 27, Garden City, Fiesta Court  
September 28, Wichita, Terradyne Hotel & Country Club  
September 29, Lawrence, Dole Institute

If you have any questions about the Long-Term Care Academy or would like to make a reservation, please contact Ms. Linda Berndt of KHCA at 785-267-6003 or [lberndt@khca.org](mailto:lberndt@khca.org).

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*The Flint Hills Center for Public Policy is an independent voice for sound public policy in Kansas. As a non-profit, nonpartisan think tank, the Center provides critical information about policy options to legislators and citizens. For more information, please visit our web site at [www.flinthills.org](http://www.flinthills.org) or contact us at [inquiries@flinthills.org](mailto:inquiries@flinthills.org) or (316) 634-0218.*



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