

## STATE OF KANSAS

## Office of the Attorney General

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CURT T. SCHNEIDER
Attorney General

March 12, 1975

Opinion No. 75-113

Honorable Wesley H. Sowers Senator, 31st District The Statehouse Topeka, Kansas

Dear Senator Sowers:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated February 24, 1975, relative to medical malpractice coverage for WSU branch medical students.

As you know, the Committee on Surety Bonds and Insurance procures substantially all of the insurance for the state and its agencies (K.S.A. 75-4101, et seq.).

For some time legislation has existed authorizing the purchase of insurance for the protection of officers, agents and employees of the state. (K.S.A. 74-4715, K.S.A. 75-4357 and K.S.A. 75-4114). Presently the Committee is working towards the purchase of liability insurance for a wide range of state employees. Whether medical malpractice insurance to protect professional medical personnel will be obtainable depends largely upon market conditions and budget limitations.

Coverage for students receiving training in community hospitals has not been included however, owing to the lack of authority for such a purchase.

We have reviewed all pertinent legislation on the matter, including that referred to above, and we conclude that further legislation would be needed before the Committee could make such a purchase on behalf of the students.

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We are hopeful the foregoing will be of assistance.

Sincerely yours,

CURT T. SCHNEIDER Attorney General

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