

EXHIBIT C

MINUTES

HOUSE & SENATE HEALTH SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE & SENATE INTERIM COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND LABOR

February 5, 2018

The House and Senate Health Services Subcommittees met Monday, February 5, 2018 at 1:30 p.m. in Committee Room A of the Multi-Agency Complex (MAC) Building, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Senate Health Services members attending: Senator Missy Irvin, Co-Chair; John Cooper, and Scott Flippo.

House Health Services members attending: Representatives Chris Richey, Chair; Aaron Pilkington, Vice Chair; and Robin Lundstrum.

Other legislators attending: Senators Alan Clark, and Scott Flippo. Representatives Scott Baltz, Jana Della Rosa, Charlene Fite, Kim Hammer, James Sorvillo, Les Warren, and Danny Watson.

Comments by the Chairs

Representative Chris Richey called the meeting to order.

Consideration to Approve the December 19, 2017 Meeting Minutes (EXHIBIT C)

Representative Richey stated that without objection, the minutes from the December 19, 2017 meeting are approved.

Discussion of Interim Study Proposal (ISP) 2017-003 – “Requesting the House Committee on Public Health, Welfare & Labor Study and Promote Awareness of Pediatric Acute-Onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome, also known as PANS.” (EXHIBIT D)

Representative Kim Hammer, Sponsor, Natalie Bradford, Physician’s Assistant, Benton Family Clinic, and Matt Brumley, Director, Saline Memorial Health Foundation; presented additional information and testimony on ‘PANS’.

Mr. Brumley gave a brief overview of the information already presented in previous meetings. Representative Hammer requested:

- ❖ For the insurance companies and representatives from UAMS and the Arkansas Children’s Hospital to attend and participate in the next subcommittee meeting
- ❖ For this issue to be referred to the Public Health Committee, after full disclosure of all the facts and findings have been revealed and explained to the Health Services Subcommittee

Representative Hammer hopes to raise awareness of ‘PANS’ and ‘PANDAS’ among the medical community through this interim study; and then to be positioned to introduce legislation on the ‘PANS’ and ‘PANDAS’ issue in the 2019-2020 Session.

Natalie Bradford, P.A., shared the circumstances and the treatments of some of her ‘PANS’ patients. She also explained some of the problems and obstacles with Medicaid, one of which is the severely low reimbursement rate.

Ms. Bradford stated that she uses Methyl B12 as part of the treatment for many of her patients who have been diagnosed with ‘PANS’, thus avoiding increased severity of this illness. Methyl B12 effects a big difference in the treatment and recovery for these children. There is very little knowledge about ‘PANS’ in the medical community. The condition is controversial within the medical community because many healthcare providers do not believe this condition exists which leads most insurance companies to not recognize it.

Holly Crutchfield, Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), Certified Autism Specialist and the Diagnostic & Clinical Coordinator at the Reach Autism Center, Benton, Arkansas; testified of her experiences with children who are sent to her clinic with a diagnosis of autism. Through testing, Ms Crutchfield discovers that some of these children are not autistic, but are suffering with 'PANS' or 'PANDAS'. The two primary infections to blame for 'PANS' are Streptococcus and Mycoplasma

Tami Harlan, Director, Division of Medical Services, Department of Human Services said the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) has not yet approved IVIG (Intravenous Immunoglobulin) for treatment of 'PANS' or 'PANDAS'. Medicaid must have FDA approval of all drugs used for treatment of any and all illnesses before they can be reimbursed.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.