

MINUTES
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, AND LABOR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, AND LABOR
Meeting Jointly
Wednesday, November 1, 2023
3:00 PM
Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Rooms B & C
600 Museum Way, Bentonville, Arkansas

Committee members present: Senators Missy Irvin, Chair; Justin Boyd, Scott Flippo, Bryan King, and Clint Penzo; Representatives Lee Johnson, Chair; Jack Ladyman, Kendra Moore, Aaron Pilkington, and Jeff Wardlaw

Other members present: Senators Tyler Dees, Jim Dotson, Bart Hester, and Greg Leding; Representatives Nicole Clowney, Mindy McAlindon, Austin McCullum, and Carlton Wing

Senator Irvin called the meeting to order.

Consideration to Approve the September 12, 2023, and October 24, 2023, Meeting Minutes [Exhibits B1-B2]

Senator Flippo made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Representative Ladyman, and the motion carried.

Alice L. Walton School of Medicine

Alice L. Walton, founder of Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art; Sharmila Makhija, MD, MBA, Founding Dean and CEO, Alice L. Walton School of Medicine; and Walter Harris, President and CEO, Whole Health Institute; discussed plans of opening the Alice L. Walton School of Medicine, a four year medical degree-granting program that builds on foundational sciences and clinical practices.

Whole Health Institute

Walter Harris, President and CEO, Whole Health Institute, presented plans to address the short-fall of community-based physicians in rural areas by implementing more virtual care and offering more at home visits for patients unable to travel to clinics.

Northwest Arkansas Council

Ryan Cork, Executive Director, Health Care Transformation, Northwest Arkansas Council, discussed making high-level specialty care more accessible to Arkansas residents.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.