

EXHIBIT B

MINUTES

SENATE AND HOUSE COMMITTEES ON JUDICIARY

Friday, September 23, 2022

10:00 AM

UA-Fort Smith Center for Economic Development, 70 S. 7th Street
Fort Smith, Arkansas

Committee members present: Senators Terry Rice, Chair; and Trent Garner; Representatives Carol Dalby, Chair; Stan Berry, Andrew Collins, Cindy Crawford, Kenneth Ferguson, Vivian Flowers, Ashley Hudson, Milton Nicks, Jay Richardson, and Jamie Scott

Other members present: Representatives Monte Hodges, Denise Jones-Ennett, and Reginald Murdock

Senator Rice called the meeting to order

Consideration to Approve the March 28, 2022 Meeting Minutes [Exhibits C1]

Representative Berry made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Representative Collins, and the motion carried.

Consideration to Adopt Interim Study Proposal 2021-123, by Representative Charlene Fite, “Defining Child Sexual Abuse Material in the Arkansas Code, and Making Technical Corrections” [Exhibit D]

Representative Flowers made a motion to adopt ISP 2021-123, seconded by Representative Richardson, and the motion carried.

Presentation on Mental Health Courts

Janet Hawley, State Specialty Court Coordinator, Administrative Office of the Courts; Jay Hill, Director, Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral Health Services, Department of Human Services; Melanie Martin, Judge, Little Rock District Court, Criminal Division; Marc McCune, Judge, Twenty-First Judicial Circuit Court, Division One; Carlton D. Jones, Judge, Eighth South Judicial Circuit Court, Division One; discussed the impact of the mental health crisis on the Arkansas court system and ways to provide mental health treatment to citizens prior to incarceration.

Discussion on Mental Health Services and Trends

Matt Bender, Visiting Associate Professor, University of Arkansas, School of Law, gave a presentation on the prevalence of mental illness across the nation and the current state of crisis in Arkansas.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.