

MINUTES
Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor
House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor
Wednesday, August 12, 2020
10:00 A.M.

Committee Members Present: Senators Ronald Caldwell, Scott Flippo, Kim Hammer, Jimmy Hickey, Jr., Bill Sample, David Wallace, Vice-Chair; Representatives Jack Ladyman, Chair; Mary Bentley, Justin Boyd, Karilyn Brown, Bruce Coleman, Deborah Ferguson, Vice-Chair; Kenneth Ferguson, Justin Gonzales, Lee Johnson, Fredrick Love, and Clint Penzo.

Other Legislators Present: Senators Linda Chesterfield, Breanne Davis, and Trent Garner
Representatives Fred Allen, Stan Berry, Joe Cloud, Marsh Davis, Jana Della Rosa, Jim Dotson, Les Eaves, Denise Ennett, Denise Garner, David Hillman, Monte Hodges, Steve Hollowell, Steve Magie, Tippi McCollough, Richard McGrew, Marcus Richmond, Johnny Rye, Jamie Scott, Joy Springer, Dan Sullivan, and Dwight Tosh.

Call to Order and Comments by the Chairs: Representative Ladyman called the meeting to order. The chair announced the upcoming meeting between the Public Health, Labor, and Welfare Committee and Education Committee taking place on August 20, 2020.

Consideration to Adopt the July 7, July 23, and July 27 Meeting Minutes [Exhibit C-1] [Exhibit C-2] [Exhibit C-3] Without objection, the minutes were approved.

How is Arkansas Doing Combating Covid-19 This item was removed from the agenda.

Arkansas Department of Education, Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and State Board of Nursing, Review of Rule [Exhibit E] Taylor Dugan, Attorney, Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, Department of Education discussed the rule concerning the administration of insulin and glucagon to public school students with diabetes. The change occurs due to Section 37 of Act 757 that allows a public school employee to be trained to administer the medications as needed. Jerri Clark, School Health Services Director, Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, Department of Education stated this would be on a voluntary basis. The parents of the diabetic student would first choose a school employee they trust to administer the medication, who would then need agree to volunteer. Volunteers would be trained in order to correctly administer the medications. The rest of the changes were technical.

Representative Ladyman stated that without objection the rule stands reviewed.

Review of Arkansas Tobacco Settlement Commission 2018-2019 Biennial Report Matt Gilmore, Boards and Commission Coordinator, Department of Health discussed the programs utilized specifically education encounters. 375,000 individuals were encountered which increased from previous years. Services provided include working with chronic disease, opioids, Medicaid expansion, and screenings. The youth population is also being educated on the dangers of vaping through programs in schools as well. Programs are seeing a decrease in outside funding, however. Becky Hall, PhD, Center Director for UAMS Eastern Helena discussed the volunteer task force created to address the opioid crisis in Eastern Arkansas. The outcomes were giving Narcan to first responders in Phillips County, creating Drug Take Back Day, donating drug take back boxes to police stations, and participating in Red Ribbon Week at

schools. Leslie Humphries, Program Manager at Arkansas Biosciences Institute discussed the possibility of patent revenues, but that it is not frequent.

Department of Human Services, Division of Medical Services, Review of Rule [Exhibit G] Mark White, Chief Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs Officer and Chief of Staff, DHS discussed the Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) which means prescription drugs may be used in conjunction with other behavioral health services to treat an opioid addiction. The rule would incorporate the requirements of Act 964 of 2019 which mandates Arkansas Medicaid may not require prior authorization nor impose other requirements other than a valid prescription and compliance with MAT guidelines.

Representative Ladyman stated that without objection the rule stands reviewed.

Arkansas Department of Health, Center for Health Advancement, Family Health Branch, Women's Health, Review of Rule [Exhibit H] Chuck Thompson, Managing Attorney, Arkansas Department of Health discussed governing the practice of licensed lay midwifery and compliance with Acts 315, 426, 820, 977, 990 and 1011 of 2019 to provide a form for compliance for hospitals to report to ADH transfers and midwife attended births.

Representative Ladyman stated that without objection the rule stands reviewed.

Arkansas Department of Health, Center for Local Public Health, Review of Rule [Exhibit I] Chuck Thompson, Managing Attorney, Arkansas Department of Health discussed the addition of the definition of an apprentice plumber and substantive changes. In addition, the rule also pertains to onsite wastewater and compliance with Acts 315, 426, 820, and 1011 of 2019.

Representative Ladyman stated that without objection the rule stands reviewed.

Arkansas Department of Health, Center for Local Public Health, Review of Rule [Exhibit J] Chuck Thompson, Managing Attorney, Arkansas Department of Health discussed the rule pertaining to plumbers' licensure. It would reduce red tape and allow for automatic licensing for military members as well as their spouses.

Representative Ladyman stated that without objection the rule stands reviewed.

Arkansas Department of Health, Center for Local Public Health Review of Rule [Exhibit K] Chuck Thompson, Managing Attorney, Arkansas Department of Health discussed the rule pertaining to septic tank cleaners which, again, reduces red tape. Terry Paul, Environmental Health Branch Chief, ADH discussed the matter of grease traps which have different disposal sites and disposal methods.

Representative Ladyman stated that without objection the rule stands reviewed.

Arkansas Department of Health, Center for Local Public Health, Review of Rule [Exhibit L] Chuck Thompson, Managing Attorney, Arkansas Department of Health discussed the reduction of red tape in relation to water operator licensing.

Representative Ladyman state that without objection the rule stands reviewed.

Interim Study Proposals

Motion to Adopt for Study/Second

Rep. Bentley/Rep. Love

ISP2019-159 An Act to Amend the Provisions of the Arkansas Code Concerning the Practice of Pharmacy; To Authorize Pharmacists to Provide Access to the Administration of Oral Contraceptives; And Other Purposes.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:52 A.M.

DRAFT