

**AGENDA**  
**Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor**  
**House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor**  
**Meeting Jointly**

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**Monday, February 7, 2022**  
**10:00 AM**  
**Room A, MAC**  
**Little Rock, Arkansas**

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Sen. Cecile Bledsoe, Chair  
Sen. Scott Flippo, Vice-Chair  
Sen. Bart Hester  
Sen. David Wallace  
Sen. Breanne Davis  
Sen. Kim Hammer  
Sen. Dan Sullivan  
Sen. Ben Gilmore

Rep. Jack Ladyman, Chair  
Rep. Deborah Ferguson, Vice-Chair  
Rep. Jeff Wardlaw  
Rep. Jon S. Eubanks  
Rep. Stephen Magie  
Rep. Jim Dotson  
Rep. Josh Miller  
Rep. John Payton  
Rep. Mary Bentley  
Rep. Michelle Gray

Rep. Justin Gonzales  
Rep. Justin Boyd  
Rep. Fred Allen  
Rep. Bruce Coleman  
Rep. Aaron Pilkington  
Rep. Carlton Wing  
Rep. Clint Penzo  
Rep. Mark Perry  
Rep. Marsh Davis  
Rep. Joe Cloud

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- A. Call to Order
- B. Comments by the Chairs
- C. Consideration to Approve the January 3, 2022, Meeting Minutes **[EXHIBIT C]**
- D. Discussion of Various Treatments for COVID-19, Effectiveness of the COVID-19 Vaccine in Keeping People Out of the Hospital, Availability of Prescription Treatments throughout the State **[HANDOUT 1]**
  - 1. José R. Romero, MD, Secretary of Health, Arkansas Department of Health (ADH)
  - 2. Don Adams, MPH, RS, Deputy Director of Administration & Operations, ADH
  - 3. Jennifer Dillaha, MD, Chief Medical Officer, ADH
  - 4. Atul Kothari, MD, Medical Director, Healthcare Associated Infections Program ADH
- E. Prescription Treatments for COVID-19 and the Availability of these Treatments throughout the State
  - 1. John Vinson, Pharm D, Chief Executive Officer, Arkansas Pharmacists Association
  - 2. Howell Foster, Pharm D, Associate Professor, Pharmacy Practice, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS)
- F. Overview of the Current Status of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) around the State
  - 1. Amanda Warren, President, Arkansas Ambulance Association (ArAA)
  - 2. Jamie Pafford-Gresham, Board Member, Co-Chair Legislative Committee, ArAA
  - 3. Ken Kelley, Secretary/Treasurer, Co-Chair Legislative Committee, ArAA
- G. Update on Plans to Reduce and Eliminate the Current Waiting List for the Community and Employment Supports Medicaid Waiver
  - 1. Mark White, Deputy Director and Chief of Staff, Legal and Legislative Affairs, DHS
  - 2. Melissa Stone, Director, Division of Developmental Disabilities Services, DHS

(OVER)

**Note: All exhibits for this meeting are available by electronic means and are accessible on the General Assembly's website at [www.arkleg.state.ar.us](http://www.arkleg.state.ar.us)**

**Notice: Silence your cell phones. Keep your personal conversations to a minimum. Observe restrictions designating areas as 'Members and Staff Only'.**

- H. Report on the Current Status of the Empower Healthcare Solutions as an Arkansas PASSE (Provider-led Shared Savings Entity) **[HANDOUT 2]**
  - 1. Mark White, Deputy Director and Chief of Staff, Legal and Legislative Affairs, DHS
  - 2. Dawn Stehle, DrPH, Deputy Director for Health and Medicaid Director, DHS
  - 3. Sarah Linam, Chief Counsel, DHS
  - 4. Elizabeth Pitman, Director, Division of Medical Services, DHS
  
- I. Arkansas Department of Health (ADH), Review of Rule to Comply with Act 135 of 2021 Governing the Practice of Licensed Lay Midwifery in Arkansas **[EXHIBIT I]**
  - 1. Chuck Thompson, JD, Managing Attorney, ADH
  - 2. Shelly Matthews, Women's Health Nurse Program Facilitator, ADH
  
- J. Arkansas Department of Health (ADH), Review of Rules Pertaining to Retail Food Establishments to Comply with Act 1040 of 2021, and to Clarify the Certified Food Manager Requirements. **[EXHIBIT J]**
  - 1. Laura Shue, JD, General Counsel, ADH
  - 2. Terry Paul, Environmental Health Branch Chief, ADH
  
- K. Other Business **[HANDOUTS 3-5]**
  
- L. Adjournment