

MINUTES
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, AND LABOR
House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor
Meeting Jointly
Monday, October 3, 2022
10:00 AM
UAMS Medical Center
4301 W. Markham St., Little Rock, Arkansas

Committee members present: Senators Cecile Bledsoe, Chair, Ben Gilmore, Kim Hammer, and David Wallace; Representatives Jack Ladyman, Chair, Fred Allen, Joe Cloud, Bruce Coleman, Marsh Davis, Jim Dotson, Justin Gonzales, John Payton, Clint Penzo, Aaron Pilkington, Jeff Wardlaw, and Carlton Wing

Other members present: Representatives Denise Jones Ennett, Kenneth B. Ferguson, Austin McCollum, and Johnny Rye

Representative Ladyman called the meeting to order.

Approval of the September 6, 2022, Meeting Minutes [EXHIBIT B]

Representative Allen made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Representative Cloud, and the motion carried.

Recognition of Secretary Cindy Gillespie, Department of Human Services

Senator Bledsoe, co-chair, and Representative Ladyman, co-chair, recognized Cindy Gillespie, Secretary, Department of Human Services, for her years of service to the State of Arkansas and congratulated her on her upcoming retirement.

Reminder to Committee Members about Scope of Practice Legislation and Adoption of Interim Study Proposals

Representative Ladyman made an announcement to the committee, reminding members of the ISP adoption deadline on November 7, 2022, regarding scope of practice bills.

UAMS, Dedicated to a Better State of Health

Cam Patterson, MD, MBA, Chancellor, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS), discussed UAMS educational programs and goals to better the health of the state.

Maternal Health in Arkansas: Needs, How UAMS is working to address those needs, Opportunities to transform maternal health in Arkansas [Handout F]

Nirvana A. Manning, MD, Chair, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology and Service Line Director for Women's Health, UAMS; Jennifer Callaghan-Koru, PhD, MHS, Department of Public Health, UAMS; and Pearl McElfish, PhD, MBA, Associate Director of Community Outreach & Engagement, UAMS Winthrop Rockefeller Cancer Institute; gave a presentation regarding maternal care in Arkansas. They discussed a national maternal health support organization that Arkansas has joined. This organization provides evidence-based standards of medical care to pregnant people.

UAMS AR ConnectNow: For a Better State of Mental Health [Handout G]

Laura B. Dunn, MD, Director, Psychiatric Research Institute, UAMS, gave a presentation regarding mental health in Arkansas and the steps that UAMS is taking to provide better care. She discussed the AR ConnectNow program and shared steps being taken to further the program.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

DRAFT