

**MINUTES**  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, AND LABOR**  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, AND LABOR**

**Meeting Jointly**  
**Monday, January 3, 2022**  
**10:00 AM**  
**Room A, MAC**  
**Little Rock, Arkansas**

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Committee members present: Senators Cecile Bledsoe, Chair; Ben Gilmore, and Kim Hammer; Representatives Jack Ladyman, Chair; Fred Allen, Mary Bentley, Bruce Coleman, Marsh Davis, Jon S. Eubanks, Justin Gonzales, Stephen Magie, Clint Penzo, Mark Perry, Jeff Wardlaw, and Carlton Wing

Other members present: Senators Jonathan Dismang and Jane English; Representatives Mark Berry, Denise Ennett, Kenneth Ferguson, Mike Holcomb, Fredrick Love, Roger Lynch, David Ray, Stu Smith, and Dwight Tosh

Representative Ladyman called the meeting to order.

**Approval of Minutes for the December 6, 2021, Meeting Minutes [Exhibit C]**

Representative Bentley made a motion to approve the minutes and the motion carried.

**PACE Foundation-Formation of a Childhood Post-infectious Autoimmune Encephalopathy (CPAE) Clinic [Handout 1]**

Mr. Paul Ryan, Co-Founder & President, PACE Foundation; and Mr. Michael Keck, Office of Institutional Relations, UAMS; provided an overview of the multi-disciplinary clinic as part of the extensive national study on Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome (PANS).

**Traveling Nurses Program**

Ms. Tenda Ray, PhD., RN, Chief Nursing Officer and Associate Vice Chancellor, UAMS; Mr. Michael Givens, Administrator, St. Bernard's Medical Center, Jonesboro; and Ms. Jodiane Tritt, JD, Executive Vice President, Arkansas Hospital Association; discussed the traveling nurses program and its effect on nursing employment rates in Arkansas.

**Alzheimer's Association Request for Appropriation**

Representative Ladyman stated this agenda item will be discussed at a later meeting.

**New Patient Navigation Program, Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences [Handout 2]**

Mr. Michael J. Birrer, MD, PhD., Vice Chancellor and Director, Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute, UAMS; Ms. Pearl McElfish, PhD., MBA, Associate Director, Community Outreach and Engagement, Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute, UAMS; and Mr. Corey Johnson, Executive Director, Community Outreach and Engagement, Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute, UAMS; discussed the Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute and its pursuit of NCI designation, focusing specifically on the Community Outreach and Engagement program.

**Arkansas Department of Health (ADH), State Board of Nursing, Review of Rules [Exhibits H1–H4]**

Ms. Sue Tedford, MNSc, APRN, Director, Arkansas State Board of Nursing; and Mr. David Dawson, JD, General Counsel, Arkansas State Board of Nursing; discussed changes related to the State Board of Nursing, including revisions to delegation, standards for nursing programs, and procedure.

Representative Ladyman stated that without objection, these rules stand as reviewed.

**Arkansas Department of Health (ADH), Public Health Laboratory, Review of Rule [Exhibit I]**

Ms. Laura Shue, JD, General Counsel, ADH; and Ms. Laura Bailey, Director, Office of Alcohol Testing, ADH; discussed updates to the instrumentation and methods for alcohol testing equipment and personnel.

Representative Ladyman stated that without objection, the rule stands as reviewed.

**Arkansas Department of Health (ADH), Environmental Health Services Division, Review of Rule [Exhibit J]**

Ms. Laura Shue, JD, General Counsel, ADH; and Mr. Terry Paul, Environmental Health Branch Chief, ADH; discussed the proposed rule pertaining to standards set for the business of cleaning and transporting septic tanks.

Representative Ladyman stated that without objection, the rule stands as reviewed.

**Department of Human Services (DHS), Division of Medical Services, Review of Rule [Exhibit K]**

Mr. Mark White, Deputy Director and Chief of Staff, Legal, and Legislative Affairs, DHS; and Ms. Elizabeth Pittman, Director, Division of Medical Services, DHS; discussed the proposed rule which authorizes Home Health providers and Pharmacy providers to administer the COVID-19 vaccinations in the home or similar settings.

Representative Ladyman stated that without objection, the rule stands as reviewed.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.