

MEETING SUMMARY

STATE AND PUBLIC SCHOOL
LIFE AND HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM
LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE

Thursday, June 9, 2016

9:00 A.M.

Room 171, State Capitol
Little Rock, Arkansas

Senator Eddie Cheatham, the Chair of the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Program Legislative Task Force, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

MEMBERS OF THE STATE AND PUBLIC SCHOOL LIFE AND HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE IN ATTENDANCE: Senator Eddie Cheatham, Chair; Representative Grant Hodges; and Representative George B. McGill.

OTHER MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN ATTENDANCE: Representative Bill Gossage; Representative Ron McNair; and Representative Chris Richey.

Minutes:

Without objection, the minutes of February 18, 2016, were approved as written.

Exhibit:

Exhibit C – 02/18/16 Minutes

Introduction of Mr. Chris Howlett, Director, Employee Benefits Division, Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration

Senator Cheatham introduced and congratulated Mr. Chris Howlett on his new position as Executive Director of the EBD, and said we are looking forward to some great leadership.

Update on the Activities of the Employee Benefits Division (EBD)

Presenter:

Mr. Chris Howlett, Director, Employee Benefits Division, Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration, was recognized. Mr. Howlett informed the Task Force of activities scheduled for the remainder of June 2016:

- 2017 premium rate sets will be concluded and the EBD Board will be making a recommendation for approval on June 21.
- there will be no 2017 plan changes to the coverage criteria or its modeling.

Update on the Fiscal Status of the Employee Benefits Division (EBD)

Presenter:

Mr. Chris Howlett, Director, Employee Benefits Division, Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration, was recognized. Mr. Howlett reviewed Public School Employees (PSE) Financials for May 2016 on page 25 of Exhibit F. He said the Net Assets Available are \$56,330,018; and are trending about the same as in May 2015. He next directed members to Arkansas State Employees (ASE) Financials for May 2016 on page 13. Following a review of these financials, he said the Net Assets Available are \$37,667,990, a little less than for May 2015, and a situation that needs to be watched; however, he did not think it was alarming.

As there were no questions from members, Senator Cheatham opened up questioning to the audience.

Mr. Mike Anderson, Lobbyist, Arkansas Blue Cross Blue Shield, was recognized, and requested a general comparison between 2016 and 2015 pharmacy expenses.

Exhibit:

Exhibit F – EBD Financials

Next Scheduled Meeting:

The next meeting date is TBD.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 09:20 a.m.

Approved: 08/24/16