

MINUTES

SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, AND LABOR

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, AND LABOR

Meeting Jointly

Wednesday, September 10, 2025

3:00 PM

Cabe Fellowship Center, 400 East 6th Street
Texarkana, Arkansas

Committee members present: Senators Missy Irvin, Chair; Fredrick J. Love, and Clint Penzo; Representatives Jeff Wardlaw, Chair; Denise Jones Ennett, Dolly Henley, Aaron Pilkington, and Jay Richardson

Other members present: Senator Jimmy Hickey, Jr; Representatives Carol Dalby and Jessie McGruder

Representative Wardlaw called the meeting to order.

Overview of Temple Memorial Pediatric Center [Exhibit B]

Sandy Varner, Chief Executive Officer, Temple Memorial Pediatric Center, gave an overview of various services offered by the Temple Memorial Pediatric Center.

Discussion of UAMS Regional Campuses [Exhibit C]

Brian Jones, Vice Chancellor of Regional Campuses, UAMS, and Dr. Andrew Legrand, Chief Resident, UAMS Texarkana, discussed how UAMS Southwest works to improve the health of Arkansans by training health professionals and utilizing community partnerships.

Update on Ongoing Department of Health (ADH) and Department of Human Services (DHS) Maternal Health Initiatives [Exhibits D1-D2]

Cassie Cochran, Deputy Director, Public Health Programs, ADH, and Elizabeth Pitman, Director, Division of Medical Services, DHS, gave an update on current programs related to maternal health.

Presentation on LifeNet Emergency Medical Services (EMS) [Exhibit E]

Alyssa Haley, Director, LifeNet EMS, and Adam Oliver, Chief Operating Officer, EMS, presented information on critical care being provided via ambulance and helicopter to Arkansas, Texas, and Oklahoma.

With no other business the meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.