

MINUTES
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, AND LABOR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, AND LABOR
Meeting Jointly
Thursday, November 6, 2025
1:00 PM
Room A, MAC
Little Rock, Arkansas

Committee members present: Senators Missy Irvin, Chair; Scott Flippo, Ricky Hill, Fredrick J. Love, John Payton, and Clint Penzo; Representatives Jeff Wardlaw, Chair; Fred Allen, Cameron Cooper, Denise Jones Ennett, Kenneth B. Ferguson, Dolly Henley, Wayne Long, Stephen Magie, Kendra Moore, Jay Richardson, and Ryan A. Rose

Other members present: Senators Jane English, Jim Dotson, Jamie Scott, and Dan Sullivan; Representatives Lincoln Barnett, Nick Burkes, Paul Childress, Jon S. Eubanks, Tippi McCullough, Jessie McGruder, Joy Springer, and Steven Walker

Senator Irvin called the meeting to order.

Consideration to Approve the October 8, 2025, Meeting Minutes [Exhibit B]

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

Consideration for Adoption of Interim Study Proposal 2025-086 by Representative Denise Ennett – To Create the Arkansas Legislative Study on Perimenopause, Menopause, and Postmenopause Health; And for Other Purposes [Exhibit C]

Without objection, the Interim Study Proposal was adopted and referred to the Health Services Subcommittee.

Update on Department of Human Services (DHS) Response to Government Shutdown and TANF Funding Impact

Janet Mann, Secretary, DHS; Misty Eubanks, Deputy Secretary for Operations and Budget, DHS; Lori McDonald, Chief of Staff, DHS; and Mary Franklin, Director of the Division of County Operations, DHS; discussed DHS's plan to delay furloughs and issue benefits at 65% due to the federal government's decision to issue funding to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients through November. Community partners' programs funded through the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Social Services, and the Community Services grant are currently suspended.

Other Business

Senator Irvin gave an update on the Rural Health Transformation Program.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.