

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

Meeting Jointly
Friday, March 6, 2026
10:00 AM
Room A, MAC
Little Rock, Arkansas

Committee members present: Senators Missy Irvin, Chair; Scott Flippo, Ricky Hill, Fredrick J. Love, and Clint Penzo; Representatives Jeff Wardlaw, Chair; Fred Allen, Glenn Barnes, Mary Bentley, Cameron Cooper, Denise Jones Ennett, Kenneth B. Ferguson, Jack Ladyman, Kendra Moore, Mark Perry, Aaron Pilkington, Jay Richardson, Ryan A. Rose, Bart Schulz, and Jeremy Wooldridge

Other members present: Senators Breanne Davis and Matt Stone; Representatives Howard M. Beaty, Jr., Keith Brooks, Jon S. Eubanks, Mindy McAllindon, Mark D. McElroy, Stetson Painter, Shad Pearce, Chad Puryear, Johnny Rye, Tracy Steele, and Dwight Tosh

Senator Irvin called the meeting to order.

Consideration to Approve the February 4, 2026, Meeting Minutes [Exhibit B]

Senator Flippo made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Representative Ladyman, and the motion carried.

Department of Human Services (DHS), Division of County Operations, Review of Rule, Continuity of Coverage [Exhibit C]

Mary Franklin, Director, Division of County Operations, DHS, presented the rule which promotes continuity of coverage of children and youth enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP.

Senator Irvin stated that, without objection, the rule stands as reviewed.

DHS, Division of Medical Services, Review of Rule, Medication Assisted Treatment Attestation of Coverage [Exhibit D]

Elizabeth Pitman, Director, Division of Medical Services, DHS, presented the rule updating the template states utilize to attest compliance.

Senator Irvin stated that, without objection, the rule stands as reviewed.

Other Business

Jenna Goldman, Director of Agency and Health System Affairs, UAMS, discussed the UAMS Culinary Medicine Program.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.