

MINUTES
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, AND LABOR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND LABOR
Meeting Jointly
Wednesday, July 1, 2026
1:00 PM
Room A, MAC
Little Rock, Arkansas

Committee members present: Senators Missy Irvin, Chair; Dave Wallace, Vice-Chair; Scott Flippo, and Clint Penzo; Representatives Jeff Wardlaw, Chair; Jeremy Wooldridge, Vice-Chair; Mary Bentley, Cameron Cooper, Denise Jones Ennett, Zack Gramlich, Dolly Henley, Wayne Long, Stephen Magie, Aaron Pilkington, Jay Richardson, and Bart Schulz

Other members present: Senators Justin Boyd, Jonathan Dismang, Bart Hester, and Mark Johnson; Representatives Jon S. Eubanks, Steve Hollowell, Tippi McCullough, Mark D. McElroy, Jessie McGruder, David Ray, Dwight Tosh, Steven Walker, and Jeremy Wooldridge

Representative Wardlaw called the meeting to order.

Consideration to Approve the June 3, 2026, Meeting Minutes [Exhibit B]

Representative Ennett made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Representative Bentley, and the motion carried.

Discussion of Emergency Rules on Hospital Based Residential Treatment for Substance Use Disorder [Exhibit C]

Paula Stone, Director, Office of Substance Abuse and Mental Health, Department of Human Services (DHS), discussed the emergency rule allowing Medicaid to pay for adolescent residential substance use disorder treatment services in a hospital setting.

DHS, Division of Medical Services (DMS), Review of Rule, Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) for In-Home Personal Care, Attendant Care, Respite Care, and Home Health [Exhibit D]

Elizabeth Pitman, Director, DMS, DHS, presented the rule to update requirements to comply with the 21st Century Cures Act adding the ability to audit and do corrective action plans for providers. The rule also removes the provider application requirement to submit a W-9 tax form.

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

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.