MINUTES

HOUSE & SENATE INTERIM COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND LABOR

August 6, 2018

The House and Senate Interim Committees on Public Health, Welfare and Labor met Monday, August 6, 2018, at 10:00 a.m. at the University of Central Arkansas (UCA) in The Prince Center, 201 Donaghey, Conway, Arkansas.

Public Health Senate Members Attending: Senators Eddie Cheatham, Vice Chair; John Cooper, Lance Eads, and Scott Flippo.

Public Health House Members Attending: Representatives Jeff Wardlaw, Chair, Deborah Ferguson, Vice Chair; Justin Boyd, Bruce Coleman, Justin Gonzales, Kim Hammer, Jack Ladyman, Fredrick Love, Robin Lundstrum, Stephen Magie, David Meeks, Donald Ragland, Chris Richey, and Richard Womack.

Other Legislators Attending: Representatives Charlene Fite, and Stephen Meeks.

Comments by the Chairs

Representative Jeff Wardlaw called the meeting to order.

Consideration to Adopt the July 2, 2018 Meeting Minutes (EXHIBIT C)

Representative Jeff Wardlaw stated that without objection, the July 2, 2018 meeting minutes are adopted

Welcome to the University of Central Arkansas (UCA)

Jeremy Gillam, Director of Governmental Affairs & External Relations, UCA, *Houston Davis*, Ph.D, President of UCA, *Jimmy H. Ishee*, Ph.D, Dean, College of Health and Behavioral Sciences, UCA, and *Susan Gatto*, Ph.D, RN, CNE, Director and Associate Professor, School of Nursing, UCA, welcomed everyone to UCA.

UCA President, Houston Davis, gave an overview on the history of UCA and on some of the activities. Mr. Ishee briefly described UCA's College of Health & Behavioral Sciences program (*Handout #1*), highlighting the nine (9) departments within this program. This College actively promotes health and wellness among the students, and it enrolls approximately 1/3 of the entire UCA student body is enrolled in the College of Health & Behavioral Sciences program. The college offers 4 types of degrees:

- 19 Baccalaureate Degrees
- 8 Masters Degrees
- 3 Clinical Doctorate Degrees
- 3 Doctor of Philosophy Degrees

Ms. Gatto began her presentation with some history of, a description of, and a list of the accomplishments of UCA's nursing program (*Handout #2*). The biggest challenge for UCA's nursing program is the lack of facilities. Current revision of the nursing program and plans for expansion of the BSN (Bachelor of Science in Nursing) program, will result in greater enrollment and have smaller classes. This will enable UCA to use these resources to the full maximum. This project will take approximately two (2) years to complete.

Department of Human Services (DHS), Division of County Operations, This Proposed Rule Change Revises Medical Services Policy to Comply with Federal Regulations Regarding Exceptions to the 90-Day Waiting Period for ARKids B Applicants with Additional Health Insurance Coverage; Medical Services policy, Section F-180 (EXHIBIT E)

Mary Franklin, Director, Division of County Operations, DHS, presented the proposed rule change. Section F-180 has been updated to comply with federal regulations regarding exceptions to the 90-day waiting period for ARKids-B applicants with additional health insurance coverage.

Representative Jeff Wardlaw stated that without objection this rule will stand as reviewed.

Department of Human Services, Division of Medical Services, This Proposed Rule Change Revises and Updates the Prosthetics Manual to Comply with Act 372 of 2017, Authorizing Advanced Practice Registered Nurses to Sign for Durable Medical Equipment (DME), Prosthetics 1-18; Section V 2-18 (EXHIBIT F)

Tami Harlan, Chief Operating Officer, Division of Medical Services, DHS; presented this proposed rule change. This proposed rule change will bring the Arkansas Medicaid Prosthetics Manual into compliance with Act 372 of 2017. It will add Advanced Practice Registered Nurse authorization for durable medical equipment.

Representative Jeff Wardlaw stated that without objection this rule will stand as reviewed.

Arkansas Tobacco Settlement Commission (ATSC), Review of the 2016-2017 ATSC Biennial Evaluation Report (Section 3 of Act 58 of 2017), July 1, 2017, through September 30, 2017 (Handout)

Matt Gilmore, Executive Director, Arkansas Tobacco Settlement Commission, presented the Arkansas Tobacco Settlement Commission's Biennial Evaluation Report, by highlighting aspects of each program and giving a brief overview of each program. Each program has successfully reached applicable short-term goals and attained long-term goals.

Stephanie Williams, RNP, Deputy Director, Public Health Programs, Arkansas Department of Health; briefly described a new program that is being initiated, called "Be Well". The 'Quit Line' is transitioning into the "Be Well" program, and this transition will take approximately 6 (six) months. This program will target not only smoking cessation, but other health issues as well.

Presentation of ISP 2017-027: "To Create the Arkansas Nighttime Environment Protection Act." (EXHIBITS H-1 & H-2)

Representative Stephen Meeks, Sponsor, presented ISP 2017-027 to the full Public Health Committees at the UCA Planetarium. Representative Stephen Meeks described and discussed what light pollution is, why everyone should care about light pollution, and what can be done to lesson light pollution. The definition of light pollution is basically excess or inappropriate use of artificial light. Four components of light pollution are 'glare', 'sky glow', 'light trespasses', and 'light clutter'.

The purpose of this ISP is to regulate outdoor night lighting fixtures to promote safety, conserve energy, save tax dollars, and preserve the state's natural nighttime environment for astronomy and the health and welfare of our citizens and our wildlife.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.