

**MINUTES**  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH**  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGING, CHILDREN AND YOUTH, LEGISLATIVE AND MILITARY**  
**AFFAIRS**  
**Meeting Jointly**  
**Friday, September 22, 2023**  
**10:00 AM**  
**Room A, MAC**  
**Little Rock, Arkansas**

---

Committee members present: Senators Bryan King, Chair; Alan Clark, Vice Chair; and Dan Sullivan; Representatives Julie Mayberry, Vice Chair; Matt Brown, Hope Duke, Charlene Fite, Stetson Painter, Joy Springer, and Jeremy Wooldridge

Other members present: Senators Linda Chesterfield, Jim Dotson, and Fredrick Love; Representatives Stan Berry, Kenneth Ferguson, Tippi McCullough, Johnny Rye, and Jeff Wardlaw

Senator King called the meeting to order.

**Consideration to Approve June 9, 2023, and July 24, 2023, Meeting Minutes [Exhibits B1 – B2]**

Representative Painter made a motion to approve the June 9, 2023, minutes, seconded by Representative Wooldridge, and the motion carried.

Representative Painter made a motion to approve the July 24, 2023, minutes, seconded by Representative Charlene Fite, and the motion carried.

**Appointment to the Child Maltreatment and Investigations Oversight Committee**

Representative Painter made a motion to appoint Representative Charlene Fite to the Child Maltreatment and Investigations Oversight Committee, seconded by Representative Mayberry, and the motion carried.

**Adoption of ISP 2023-082 by Representative Mayberry – An act to create the universal newborn home nurse visitation program to provide home visitation services for a newborn infant and the parents of a newborn infant; and for other purposes. [Exhibit D]**

Representative Mayberry made a motion to adopt ISP 2023-082, seconded by Representative Painter, and the motion carried.

**Discussion of the Child Welfare Program and VA Home in Northwest Arkansas**

General Kendall Penn, Secretary, Arkansas Department of Veterans Affairs (ADVA), and Steven Veazey, Assistant Director of Veterans Services, ADVA, led a discussion on a grant that will be given in the year 2024 to rebuild a new veteran's home facility in Northwest Arkansas.

**Presentation by Fostering Change [Exhibit F]**

Abby Rundell, Program Director, Fostering Change, gave a presentation on a program that houses children between the ages of 13 to 17 who are under state care. A physician and a psychotherapist are provided to the children while staying in the home.

**Review of Arkansas State Police, Crimes Against Children Division (CACD), Quarterly Oversight Review, April – June, 2023 [Exhibit G]**

Major Jeff Drew, Commander, CACD, reviewed the quarterly report detailing the types of child abuse calls that were received as well as the numbers, which were substantiated.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

DRAFT