

MINUTES
SENATE COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGING, CHILDREN AND YOUTH, LEGISLATIVE AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS
MEETING JOINTLY

Tuesday, April 5, 2022

1:00 PM

Room A, MAC

Little Rock, Arkansas

Committee members present: Senators David Wallace, Chair; and Clarke Tucker, Vice Chair; Representatives Charlene Fite, Chair; Mark H. Berry, Craig Christiansen, Joe Cloud, Tony Furman, Denise Garner, Ashley Hudson, Joy Springer, and Danny Watson

Other members present: Senators Trent Garner, Kim Hammer, Mark Johnson, and Mathew Pitsch; Representatives Stan Berry, Vivian Flowers, Fredrick J. Love, David Ray, Marcus E. Richmond, and Jamie Scott

Approval of the January 24, 2022 Meeting Minutes [Exhibit C]

Representative Garner made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Representative Cloud, and the motion carried.

Appointments to the Child Maltreatment Investigations Oversight Committee

Representative Cloud made a motion to appoint Kendall Sample to the Child Maltreatment Investigations Oversight Committee, seconded by Representative Furman, and the motion carried.

Representative Cloud made a motion to appoint Judge Mike Medlock to the Child Maltreatment Investigations Oversight Committee, seconded by Representative Furman, and the motion carried.

Arkansas Department of Human Services (DHS), Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education (DCCECE), Review of Rule: Minimum Licensing Standards for Child Welfare Agencies (Placement and Residential) [Exhibit E]

Ebony Russ, Quality Assurance Coordinator and Program Manager, Placement and Residential Licensing Unit, DCCECE; and Tonya Williams, Director, DCCECE, discussed the proposed rule which addresses minimum licensing standards for child welfare agencies.

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

Arkansas Department of Human Services, Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS), Review of Rule: Development of Resource Homes and Support to Resource Parents [Exhibit F]

Christin Harper, Assistant Director, DCFS, discussed the proposed rule which addresses the development of resource homes and support for resource parents.

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

**Arkansas Department of Human Services, Division of Children and Family Services,
Review of Rule: Update to Child Maltreatment Investigation Policies and Procedures
[Exhibit G]**

Christin Harper, Assistant Director, DCFS, discussed the proposed rule which addresses the updates made to the Child Maltreatment Investigations policies and procedures.

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

**Arkansas Department of Human Services, Division of Children and Family Services,
Review of Rule: Providing Information to and Gathering Information from Resource
Parents [Exhibit H]**

Christin Harper, Assistant Director, DCFS, discussed the proposed rule which addresses providing information to and gathering information from resource parents.

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

**Arkansas Department of Human Services, Division of Children and Family Services,
Review of Rule: Promoting Successful Transitions to Adulthood [Exhibit I]**

Christin Harper, Assistant Director, DCFS, discussed the proposed rule which addresses the promotion of a successful transition to adulthood from foster care.

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

**Department of Human Services, Division of Children and Family Services, Quarterly
Performance Report, October 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021 [Exhibit J]**

Christin Harper, Assistant Director, DCFS, discussed the statistics of the Quarterly Performance Report for October 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021.

**Arkansas State Police, Crimes Against Children Division (CACD), Quarterly Oversight
Report, October – December 2021, and 2021 Annual Report [Exhibits K1-K2]**

Major Jeff Drew, Commander, Crimes Against Children Division (CACD), discussed the CACD 2021 Annual Report statistics which incorporated the Quarterly Oversight Report, October – December 2021.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:02 p.m.