



Children, Families, Health, and Human Services Interim Committee

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61th Montana Legislature

SENATE MEMBERS

ROY BROWN
CHRISTINE KAUFMANN
RICK LAIBLE
TRUDI SCHMIDT

HOUSE MEMBERS

MARY CAFERRO
GARY MACLAREN
PENNY MORGAN
DIANE SANDS

COMMITTEE STAFF

SUE O'CONNELL, Research Analyst
LISA JACKSON, Staff Attorney
FONG HOM, Secretary

MINUTES

June 2, 2009

Room 102, State Capitol
Helena, Montana

Please note: These minutes provide abbreviated information about committee discussion, public testimony, action taken, and other activities. The minutes are accompanied by an audio recording. For each action listed, the minutes indicate the approximate amount of time in hours, minutes, and seconds that has elapsed since the start of the meeting. This time may be used to locate the activity on the audio recording.

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To view the minutes, locate the meeting date and click on minutes. To hear the audio recording, click on the Real Player icon. Note: You must have Real Player to listen to the audio recording.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

SEN. ROY BROWN
SEN. CHRISTINE KAUFMANN
SEN. TRUDI SCHMIDT

REP. MARY CAFERRO
REP. GARY MACLAREN
REP. PENNY MORGAN
REP. DIANE SANDS

COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCUSED

SEN. RICK LAIBLE

STAFF PRESENT

SUE O'CONNELL, Research Analyst
LISA JACKSON, Staff Attorney
FONG HOM, Secretary

Visitors

Visitors' list, Attachment #1
Agenda, Attachment #2

COMMITTEE ACTION

- The Committee elected Rep. Diane Sands as Chair and Sen. Laible as Vice Chair.
- The Committee revised and adopted the Committee Work Plan, the SJR 35 and HJR 39 study plan, and Schedule of Meetings.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

00:00:07 Sen. Schmidt, Acting Presiding Officer, called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. Each member gave a brief introduction of themselves.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

00:10:25 A discussion on whether or not to elect officers until a full committee was present and the issue of voting by proxy was held.

Sen. Kaufmann and Rep. Sands were nominated for Chair. A vote was taken resulting in a tie. It was decided by the committee to delay discussion on electing the Chair until after lunch.

AGENDA

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS - Sue O'Connell, Lead Researcher, LSD

00:20:45 Ms. O'Connell gave a presentation on the guidelines for interim committees (**Exhibit 1**) and the role and responsibilities of the staff.

Overview of the Children and Families' work plan

00:28:03 Ms. O'Connell discussed the Draft Work Plan for CFHHS (**Exhibit 2**).

SJR 35 Draft Study Plan - Sue O'Connell

00:49:04 Ms. O'Connell discussed the SJR 35 Study Plan (**Exhibit 3**).

Public Comment on the SJR 35 Study was made by the following:

00:59:25 Kim Abbott, Montana Human Rights Network. Ms. Abbott also distributed a Health Policy Memo that discussed medical loss ratios (**Exhibit 4**) to the committee.

Judy Smith, Montana Women Vote

Christina Davis, State Director for Children's Defense Fund

Kristin Juliar, Director of Montana Office of Rural Health

Erin McGowan Fincham, American Cancer Society and Association of Montana Healthcare Officials

Steve Nelsen, Montana Children's Initiative

Matt Kuntz, Mental Health Alliance of Montana

Claudia Clifford, AARP of Montana

Draft HJR 39 Draft Study Plan - Sue O'Connell

01:16:06 Ms. O'Connell discussed the HJR 39 Draft Study Plan (**Exhibit 5**).

- 01:18:40 **Public Comment on the HJR 39 Study was made by the following:**
Matt Kuntz, Mental Health Alliance of Montana
Jan Cahill, Executive Director, Montana Association of Disability Services
- 01:22:45 **Administrative Rule Review - Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson, Staff Attorney**
Ms. Mecklenberg Jackson discussed the following: Administrative Rulemaking **(Exhibit 6)**; a brochure on Administrative Rules **(Exhibit 7)**; and DPHHS Administrative Rule Activity **(Exhibit 8)**.
- 01:45:36 **Public Comment**
None
- LUNCH**
- 02:57:02 **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**
Rep. Sands was unanimously elected Chair of the Children, Families, Health and Human Services Interim Committee. Sen. Laible was elected Vice Chair.
- 02:59:55 **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES REPORTS**
Hank Hudson, Manager, Economic Security Services Branch, DPHHS, gave a brief overview of the budget of the Department of Public Health and Human Services.
- 03:03:58 **Amy Carlson, Assistant Budget Director of OBPP**, gave an overview of the Department's budget and distributed a document showing DPHHS' General Fund **(Exhibit 9)**.
- 03:14:01 **Organization of DPHHS - Hank Hudson**
Mr. Hudson distributed and discussed the Department of Public Health and Human Services' 2009 Guide to the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services **(Exhibit 10)**.
- 03:26:17 Sen. Brown asked Mr. Hudson if he could provide the committee with a graph that shows total funding for all divisions for the biennium. Mr. Hudson said he would provide that documentation to the committee.
- 03:27:49 **Operations Services - Laurie Lamson, Manager**
Ms. Lamson gave an overview of the Operations Services Branch.
- 03:53:06 **Public Health and Safety Division - Jane Smilie, Administrator**
Ms. Smilie gave an overview of the Public Health and Safety Division **(Exhibit 11)**. She also briefly discussed the Robert Wood Foundation and their grant programs.
- 04:03:05 Sen. Schmidt asked a question on the grant from the Robert Wood Foundation. Ms. Smilie responded.

- 04:04:03 Sen. Kaufmann asked for more information on the implementation of Initiative 155.
- 04:05:12 **Jackie Forba, DPHHS, CHIP Bureau Chief and Acting Health Resources Division Administrator**
Ms. Forba discussed key components of Initiative 155 and a new computer system called Combined Healthcare Information and Montana Eligibility System (CHIMES).
- 04:09:12 There were questions asked by members of the committee regarding IT issues, enrollment partners for CHIP, funding for CHIMES program, dental services, and citizenship requirements for CHIP.
- 04:11:07 **Federal Health Care Reform: Status Update - Kelly Whitener, Health Policy Fellow, Senate Finance Committee (via teleconference)**
Ms. Whitener gave an update of the federal Health Care Reform efforts in Congress.
- 04:16:09 **Committee Discussion and Questions**
Ms. Whitener talked about what Montana could do to aid Sen. Baucus' Office on proposed legislation for healthcare reform. Several committee members asked questions regarding what model Sen. Baucus based his proposal on, what is a definition of delivery for health care services, if the public option is a private product, who would pay for the health care changes, health information technology, what treatment is available to immigrants, both legal and illegal, and what was the level of poverty that Medicaid may be expanded to.
- BREAK**
- 05:11:07 **Committee Work Session**
A discussion was held by the committee on its proposed Work Plan. The committee began by reviewing and discussing Appendix A of the Work Plan.
- Appendix A: CFHHS Work Plan Decision Matrix**
- Rule Review - Consensus is for moderate involvement.
 - Agency Monitoring - Consensus was for moderate involvement.
 - Legislative Review - Consensus was for minimal involvement.
 - Mental Health Study Oversight - Staff prepare a summary of the mental health report and schedule presentation so that committee can decide what issues they would like to proceed with; staff check with other interim committees to see if they are involved so there is no duplication of efforts.
 - SJR 35 Study - Consensus to adopt Option C, significant study effort..
 - HJR 39 Study - Consensus to adopt Option A, white paper with findings.
- Sen. Schmidt moved to adopt the Children, Families, Health and Human Services' work plan as discussed. The motion passed.**
- 05:30:34 **Appendix B: Topics for CFHHS Consideration**

The committee members discussed topics under Appendix B:

- **Children's Issues** - Implementation of I-155, Autism Services, Close Relative Registry, Family Find Program, and adding Systems of Care for Children's Mental Health Services.
- **Health Care** - EMS Grant Program and Specialty Hospitals. Sen. Schmidt requested that access to dental care by children in foster care, dentists not accepting Medicaid clients, dentists in rural areas, and the issue of discontinuing fluoride treatment in schools be added under the topic of health care.
- **Medicaid** - The Buy-In Program, the HIFA Waiver, and Physician Reimbursement.
- **Mental Health** - Mental Health Legislation, Transport of Mentally Ill Patients to State Hospital, Mental Health Initiatives Funded in 2007. Rep. Morgan requested more research to be done on the disbursement of the 72-hour crisis stabilization funds.
- **Public Assistance** - Family Economic Security Plan and Second Chance Homes.

05:55:03

Appendix C: Meeting Dates

A discussion was held regarding the proposed meeting dates.

Sen. Brown moved to adopt the proposed meeting schedule. The motion passed.

06:10:02

Discussion on the SJR 35 Health Care Reform Study Plan

A discussion was held regarding items 1a and 1b (compile information on uninsured and underinsured, and the publicly insured) of the study. Rep. MacLaren suggested including the state program for high risk people. Rep. MacLaren also discussed item 4 (monitoring use of state and federal funds for HIT).

06:14:06

Public Comment was made by the following:

Webb Brown, Chamber of Commerce
Erin McGowan Fincham, American Cancer Society and Network

06:20:22

Adjournment

Rep. Sands adjourned the meeting at 4:27 p.m.

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