



State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee
64th Montana Legislature

SENATE MEMBERS

DEE BROWN--Chair
DOUG KARY
CLIFF LARSEN
JONATHAN WINDY BOY

HOUSE MEMBERS

BRYCE BENNETT--Vice Chair
FORREST MANDEVILLE
WENDY MCKAMEY
KATHY SWANSON

COMMITTEE STAFF

SHERI SCURR, Lead Staff
K. VIRGINIA ALDRICH, Staff Attorney
KATYA GROVER, Secretary

MINUTES LOG

Nov. 17, 2016
Room 102, Capitol Building
Helena, Montana

Please note: This document is a Minutes Log and provides a notation of the time elapsed between the beginning of the meeting and the time at which the item was presented or discussed, a motion was made, or a vote was taken. The narrative presented here is provided only as a guide to the audio or video record of the meeting. The official discussion, motion, or vote is available on the audio or video archive of this meeting. The Legislature does not prepare a transcript of meeting activities. The time designation may be used to locate the referenced discussion on the audio or video recording of this meeting.

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

SEN. DEE BROWN, Chair
REP. BRYCE BENNETT, Vice Chair
SEN. DOUG KARY
SEN. CLIFF LARSEN
SEN. JONATHAN WINDY BOY
REP. FORREST MANDEVILLE
REP. WENDY MCKAMEY

COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCUSED

REP. KATHY SWANSON

STAFF PRESENT

SHERI SCURR, Lead Staff
K. VIRGINIA ALDRICH, Staff Attorney
KATYA GROVER, Secretary

VISITORS' LIST (Attachment 1)

AGENDA (Attachment 2)

COMMITTEE ACTIONS

The committee:

- Approved setting the appropriation amount in LCvet1, a bill to support the state suicide prevention program, at \$500,000.
- Approved setting the appropriation amount in LCvet2, a bill to support grants to local suicide prevention programs targeting veterans, at \$500,000.
- Approved adding "mental health professionals" to LCvet3, a bill to require that certain professionals receive suicide prevention training.
- Approved adding "emergency medical technicians" to LCvet3.
- Approved LCvet1 as a committee bill.
- Approved LCvet2 as a committee bill.
- Approved LCvet 3 as a committee bill.
- Agreed that the Green Sheets, summary tables about the public employee retirement systems, should be published and provided to legislators during the session.
- Agreed that the Legislator's Guide to Montana's Public Employee Retirement Systems should be published, with some additions, and provided to legislators during the session.
- Revised and agreed on a recommendation statement to be published in the committee's final report on the HJR 21 study of personal information ownership.
- Revised the list of professionals to be required to receive suicide prevention training under LCvet3 and approved the revised bill as a committee bill.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

- 00:00:07 Sen. Brown called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The committee secretary called roll. **(Attachment 3)**
- 00:00:47 Sen. Brown went over agenda for this meeting.

VETERANS - SUICIDE PREVENTION

Overview of Preliminary Bill Drafts - Sheri Scurr, Legislative Research Analyst

- 00:02:54 Ms. Scurr provided introductory remarks about the bill drafts: LCvet1, LCvet2, and LCvet3.

LCvet1 - Support Statewide Media Campaign for All

00:03:25 Ms. Scurr (**Exhibit 1**)

Committee Discussion on the State Suicide Mortality Review Team Report

00:06:25 Sen. Windy Boy

00:06:43 Ms. Scurr

00:06:58 Sen. Brown

00:07:32 Sen. Windy Boy

00:07:47 Ms. Scurr

00:07:54 Sen. Brown

00:08:20 Ms. Scurr resumed summarizing the bill draft.

Committee Discussion on the Appropriation Side of LCvet1

00:12:23 Sen. Brown

00:13:04 Sen. Windy Boy

00:13:11 Sen. Brown

00:13:56 Sen. Windy Boy

00:14:27 Sen. Brown

00:14:31 Sen. Windy Boy

00:14:57 Rep. Bennett

00:15:19 Rep. McKamey

00:15:42 Sen. Brown

00:15:51 In addressing the discussion, Karl Rosston, Suicide Prevention Coordinator, DPHHS, also talked about the use of media, including Facebook, in outreach efforts.

Committee Questions of Mr. Rosston

00:19:44 Sen. Brown asked about the total amount of the Rural Grant that Mr. Rosston discussed.

00:20:21 Sen. Brown asked whether the grant amount was close to ninety thousand dollars and whether it was anticipated that this grant money would go away.

00:21:08 Sen. Brown asked about the recipients of the Rural Grant.

00:21:37 Sen. Brown asked how much more money would be needed in addition to ninety thousand dollars in order to reach out to the Indian population and other groups in the state.

00:22:42 Sen. Kary asked how many individuals were reached during the military appreciation event and how many of those sought further help.

00:23:42 Sen. Kary asked about Facebook and individuals who sought further resources after visiting Facebook in relation to the military appreciation event.

Committee Discussion on the Intended Audience of LCvet1

00:25:20 Sen. Windy Boy
00:27:45 Sen. Larsen
00:28:44 Ms. Scurr
00:29:04 Sen. Brown
00:29:19 Sen. Larsen
00:30:46 Sen. Brown
00:32:12 Rep. Bennett

Further Committee Discussion on the Appropriation Side of LCvet1

00:34:16 Rep. Mandeville
00:34:38 Sen. Brown
00:34:55 Rep. Mandeville
00:35:26 Sen. Brown
00:35:34 Rep. Mandeville
00:35:47 Sen. Brown
00:35:51 Rep. McKamey
00:36:43 Sen. Kary
00:37:32 Sen. Larsen

Motion

00:38:39 Rep. Bennett moved to appropriate five hundred thousand dollars for a state-wide effort for suicide prevention programs.

Discussion on the Motion

00:39:27 Rep. Mandeville
00:39:44 Sen. Brown
00:39:59 Sen. Kary

Vote

00:40:30 The motion passed on a roll call vote, 5-2. ([Attachment 4](#))

Discussion on the Definition of the Word "Normalize"

00:41:35 Rep. McKamey
00:41:48 Sen. Brown
00:42:55 Rep. McKamey
00:43:27 Sen. Brown

LCvet 2 - Support Grant Program for Local Efforts to Prevent Veteran Suicides

00:44:24 Ms. Scurr ([Exhibit 2](#))

Motion

00:45:25 Rep. Bennett moved to appropriate five hundred thousand dollars to the local entities for veterans' suicide prevention.
00:45:34 Sen. Brown reiterated the motion.

Vote

00:45:40 The motion passed on a voice vote, 6-1, with Sen. Brown, Rep. Bennett, Sen. Larsen, Sen. Windy Boy, Rep. Mandeville, and Rep. McKamey voting 'yes' and Sen. Kary voting 'no'. Rep. Swanson was excused.

LCvet 3 - Require Primary Care Providers to Be Trained in Suicide Prevention

00:46:04 Ms. Scurr (**Exhibit 3**)

00:48:38 Sen. Brown noted that the committee needs to discuss which groups of medical professionals should be required to get the suicide prevention training.

Motion

00:48:49 Rep. Bennett moved to require mental health professionals to be trained in suicide prevention.

Discussion on the Motion

00:48:58 Sen. Brown
00:49:13 Rep. Bennett
00:49:28 Sen. Larsen
00:51:03 Sen. Kary
00:51:18 Ms. Scurr

Vote

00:51:29 The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote. Rep. Swanson was excused.

00:51:53 Sen. Brown suggested adding training in suicide prevention as part of the emergency medical technicians' (EMT) certification.

Motion

00:52:39 Sen. Brown moved to add emergency medical technicians to section 1 of LCvet3 thus requiring them to receive training in suicide prevention.

Vote

00:52:54 The motion passed on a voice vote, 6-1, with Sen. Brown, Sen. Kary, Sen. Larsen, Sen. Windy Boy, Rep. Mandeville, and Rep. McKamey voting 'yes' and Rep. Bennett voting 'no'. Rep. Swanson was excused.

00:53:13 Sen. Windy Boy suggested including Indian Health Service Professionals in section 1 of LCvet3 as well, unless this group is already included.

Committee Discussion on Sen. Windy Boy's Suggestion

00:53:38 Sen. Brown
00:53:48 Sen. Windy Boy
00:54:53 Sen. Brown
00:55:04 Ms. Scurr
00:56:00 Sen. Windy Boy
00:56:35 Sen. Brown

00:57:06 Ms. Scurr
00:57:34 Sen. Brown
00:57:40 Rep. McKamey
00:58:00 Sen. Windy Boy
00:58:39 Rep. McKamey
00:59:08 Ms. Scurr

Public Comment on Bill Drafts and Committee Work Session

00:59:57 Sen. Brown introduced the procedure regarding public comment and the committee's work session.

Public Comment on LCvet 1

01:00:30 Juliana Hallows, Suicide Prevention Coordinator, VA Montana, spoke about normalizing mental health and provided suggestions regarding targeting the population of white and Native Americans veterans of 45 years of age and over as the population with the highest suicide rates. In her comments, Ms. Hallows referred to the Montana Suicide Mortality Review Report. **(Exhibit 4)**

Committee Questions of Ms. Hallows

01:02:47 Sen. Brown asked for confirmation about groups targeted by the campaign.

01:04:42 William Gallea, President, Montana Medical Association, spoke in strong support of LCvet1.

01:05:10 Ed Lesofski, Executive Director, Rural Institute Veterans Education Research, said that rather than putting money into utilizing websites like Facebook, the funds should be targeted at organizations in local communities such as fire departments and community emergency medical services in promoting the suicide prevention campaign.

01:06:26 Sen. Brown provided final remarks regarding public comment on LCvet1.

Motion

01:07:29 Sen. Windy Boy moved to approve LCvet1 as a committee bill.

Vote

01:07:39 The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote. Rep. Swanson was excused.

01:07:44 Sen. Windy Boy offered to carry the bill during the session.

Public Comment on LCvet2

01:08:47 Mr. Gallea expressed his strong support of LCvet2.

01:09:28 Ms. Hallows spoke in strong support of LCvet2 and recommended that this bill create a Native American suicide prevention specialist who would work with Karl Rosston.

Committee Questions of Ms. Hallows

- 01:10:24 Sen. Brown asked Ms. Hollows to elaborate about the position of a Native American suicide prevention specialist and its funding.
- 01:11:34 Sen. Brown provided a comment to Sen. Windy Boy regarding Ms. Hallows's recommendation.
- 01:11:49 Rep. Mandeville asked whether this position would be limited to serving Native American veterans or would include all Native American population. Rep. Mandeville also asked whether creating this position would be better via LCvet1.
- 01:12:54 Sen. Windy Boy expressed his agreement with Rep. Mandeville and suggested that there needs to be language coordination between LCvet1 and LCvet2
- 01:14:25 Sen. Brown elaborated on language coordination.

Public Comment

- 01:15:17 Mr. Lesofski spoke on behalf of John Dagenhart and distributed documents from Mr. Dagenhart. **(Exhibit 5) (Exhibit 6)** Mr. Lesofski also expressed his support of LCvet2 and spoke about importance of supporting groups in local communities.

Committee Questions

- 01:21:43 Sen. Windy Boy asked Ms. Scurr about awareness on the local level as described in LCvet2.
- 01:22:14 Sen. Larsen said that LCvet2 is specifically written to target veterans and if the general public is to be included as a group targeted for suicide prevention efforts, then the title of the bill draft needs to be changed.

Motion

- 01:22:55 Rep. Bennett moved to approve LCvet2 as a committee bill.

Vote

- 01:23:11 The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote. Rep. Swanson was excused.
- 01:23:30 Sen. Windy Boy said that he will carry this bill during the session.

Public Comment on LCvet 3

- 01:23:56 Mr. Rosston offered his expertise as an informational witness and noted that health care professionals in Montana have been trained in suicide prevention.
- 01:24:57 Mr. Gallea expressed his concerns regarding the content of LCvet3. Mr. Gallea also talked about structural issues with the bill draft.

Committee Questions

- 01:30:18 Sen. Brown asked Mr. Gallea about suicide prevention training as part of the licensure. Sen. Brown also addressed Mr. Gallea's concern.
- 01:32:35 Ms. Hallows noted that the Joint Commission by the Division of Accreditation Operations that met in February 2016, recommended that all primary care physicians screen patients for suicidality

01:32:58 Jean Branscum, Montana Medical Association, provided information on how physicians are licenced in Montana and encouraged the committee to look at the language of the bill draft so that the bill focuses on appropriate specializations of physicians required to be trained in suicide prevention. Ms. Branscum also talked about what has been done in suicide prevention efforts already.

Committee Questions

01:36:38 Sen. Brown referred to the uniqueness of doctors' specializations that Ms. Branscum discussed and asked whether doctors have any training in suicide prevention specifically.

01:37:56 Mr. Lesofski encouraged the committee to also require paramedics to have training in suicide prevention.

Committee Discussion on the Definition of a "Physician"

01:38:48 Sen. Larsen

01:39:30 Ms. Scurr

01:39:36 Sen. Brown

01:40:04 Rep. Bennett

01:41:44 Rep. McKamey

01:42:34 Ms. Scurr

01:43:37 Sen. Brown

01:43:46 Ms. Scurr

01:43:54 Sen. Larsen

01:45:00 Sen. Brown

01:45:12 Ms. Scurr

01:45:56 Sen. Larsen

01:46:30 Sen. Brown suspended discussion of LCvet3 until later in the meeting.

Committee Questions

01:47:42 Sen. Windy Boy asked whether it is possible to put coordination language in LCvet1 and LCvet2 allowing for matching with the federal dollars.

01:48:23 Sen. Brown referred this question to Ms. Scurr.

01:49:35 Sen. Brown concluded the committee's work on the suicide prevention part of the agenda.

MPERA PUBLIC EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS - ACTUARIAL VALUATIONS

Dore Schwinden, Executive Director, MPERA

01:50:35 Director Schwinden ([Exhibit 7](#))

Committee Questions

02:07:04 Sen. Brown asked about the change in the funding rate reflected on slide 9 of Exhibit 7.

02:07:46 Director Schwinden resumed his presentation with slide 10.

Committee Questions

02:12:51 Sen. Brown referred to slide 14 and asked whether the trend of declining cash flow will continue.

02:14:45 Director Schwiden resumed his presentation with slide 15.

Committee Questions

02:16:51 Sen. Brown asked about administrative expense load reflected on slide 16.

02:17:13 Director Schwiden resumed his presentation with slide 17.

Committee Questions

02:18:51 Sen. Brown asked about funded ratio for JRS reflected in slide 17.

02:19:38 Rep. Mandeville asked whether adding judges would significantly lower the percentage of the funded ratio for JRS.

02:20:14 Director Schwiden concluded his presentation.

02:21:42 Sen. Brown distributed two documents with selected information pulled from PERS and TRS websites regarding actuarial valuation for the Public Employees' Retirement System (**Exhibit 8**) and for Teachers' Retirement System (**Exhibit 9**). Sen. Brown suggested to have presentation of data for investment return for PERS match presentation of data for investment return by TRS.

02:24:51 Director Schwiden addressed Sen. Brown's point.

02:26:36 Sen. Brown provided closing remarks.

Public Comment - None

BREAK (reconvened at 10:45 a.m.)

TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM - ACTUARIAL VALUATION

Shawn Graham, Executive Director, TRS

02:27:17 Director Graham (**Exhibit 10**)

Committee Questions

02:30:34 Sen. Brown asked about 2.08% market asset return reflected on page 5 of Exhibit 10.

02:32:21 Sen. Brown asked about smoothing of the curve.

02:33:52 Director Graham continued his presentation with slide 5.

Committee Questions

02:45:33 Sen. Brown referred Director Graham to Exhibit 9 and asked about the statement of changes shown on page 12 of Exhibit 9.

02:50:06 Sen. Brown asked about the source of funding for the administrative costs that Director Graham mentioned.

Public Comment - None

PENSION FUND INVESTMENTS AND RETURNS

Board of Investments

David Ewer, Executive Director
Joe Cullen, Chief Investment Officer

02:51:42 Director Ewer (**Exhibit 11**) (**Exhibit 12**) (**Exhibit 13**)

02:56:57 Mr. Cullen

Committee Questions

03:03:27 Sen. Brown asked who sets the policy on range low and range high.

03:04:16 Sen. Brown asked about qualifications of the board members.

03:12:43 Sen. Brown asked about the term "the security lending expense".

03:13:58 Sen. Brown asked how much money in pension money is being invested.

03:17:05 Rep. McKamey asked about the functions of the Board of Investments.

03:17:47 Sen. Larsen referred to Exhibit 12 and asked whether the veterans homeowner program and coal tax trust fund are reflected in data of the MBOI Snapshot.

03:18:45 Sen. Brown asked whether an additional 43 million dollars in contribution from the state per biennium would make a significant difference for the TRS.

03:19:53 Sen. Brown distributed an article from the Wall Street Journal entitled "What Does Nevada's \$35 Billion Fund Manager Do All Day? Nothing." (**Exhibit 14**) and encouraged Mr. Ewer and Mr. Cullen to read it.

03:22:42 Mr. Ewer concluded his report and addressed the content of the article.

03:24:24 Sen. Brown provided concluding remarks on the discussion of the pension fund investments and returns.

Public Comment - None

LUNCH (Reconvened at 1:18 p.m.)

04:19:55 Rep. Bennett assumed chairmanship and called the committee back to order.

COMMITTEE'S PENSION OVERSIGHT DUTIES

Overviews - Sheri Scurr

Legislator's Guide

04:20:15 Ms. Scurr went over a Legislator's Guide to Montana's Public Employee Retirement System. (**Exhibit 15**) Ms. Scurr also distributed and discussed the document entitled "GASB Financial Reporting. Draft". (**Exhibit 16**)

Committee Questions

- 04:29:02 Rep. McKamey asked Ms. Scurr whether local governments also pertain to the School Boards.
- 04:29:56 Ms. Scurr resumed her report (see Exhibit 16).
- 04:35:31 Ms. Scurr concluded her discussion of the Legislator's Guide (see Exhibit 15) and briefly discussed the content of the document entitled "Summary of FY 2016 Public Retirement System Actuarial Valuations". ([Exhibit 17](#))

Committee Questions

- 04:44:18 Rep. McKamey asked Ms. Scurr whether the GASB Financial Report should be included in the Legislator's Guide.
- 04:45:52 Rep. Bennett asked about details for publishing and distributing the Legislator's Guide.

Green Sheets (Summary Tables of Plan Information)

- 04:47:29 Ms. Scurr discussed Summary of FY 2016 Public Retirement System Actuarial Valuations in detail (see Exhibit 17).

Committee Questions

- 04:57:26 Sen. Larsen asked whether these documents (Exhibits 15, 16, and 17) will be distributed to members of the State Administration Standing Committee. Sen. Larsen noted that these three documents should be distributed and explained why.

Pension Policy Principles:

- Retirement Boards' Funding and Benefit Policies
- SAVA's 2013-14 Principles

- 04:59:49 Ms. Scurr ([Exhibit 18](#)) ([Exhibit 19](#)) ([Exhibit 20](#))

Public Comment - None

Committee Discussion and Work Session on Revising/Adopting SAVA's Pension Policy Principles

- 05:02:38 Rep. Bennett opened the discussion on the Guide

Committee Discussion on the Legislator's Guide

Committee members and staff discussed changes to the content of the Legislator's Guide and its distribution.

- 05:03:00 Rep. McKamey
- 05:03:26 Rep. Bennett
- 05:03:44 Sen. Kary
- 05:04:03 Ms. Scurr
- 05:04:27 Rep. Bennett
- 05:04:48 Rep. McKamey

05:06:03 Rep. Bennett
05:06:16 Rep. Mandeville
05:06:28 Ms. Scurr
05:07:05 Rep. Bennett
05:07:25 Rep. McKamey
05:08:02 Rep. Bennett
05:07:22 Rep. McKamey
05:08:19 Sen. Larsen
05:08:04 Rep. Bennett
05:08:21 Sen. Larsen
05:08:52 Sen. Kary
05:09:15 Rep. McKamey
05:10:18 Rep. Bennett
05:10:36 Rep. Bennett
05:11:19 Rep. McKamey
05:12:01 Rep. Bennett

Committee Discussion on the Green Sheets

05:12:09 The committee members agreed by consensus not to apply any changes to the documents entitled "Summary of FY 2016 Public Retirement System Actuarial Valuations" (see Exhibit 17).

Committee Discussion on Pension Policy Principles

Committee members provided suggestions on changes to the document entitled "Pension Policy Principles as Guidelines for 2015 Legislature".

05:12:33 Rep. Bennett
05:12:49 Rep. McKamey
05:13:06 Ms. Scurr
05:13:56 Rep. Bennett
05:14:04 Ms. Scurr
05:14:18 Rep. Bennett

HJR 21 - STUDY OF PERSONAL INFORMATION OWNERSHIP

Committee Discussion and Possible Action on Final Recommendation or Statement

05:15:57 Rep. Bennett opened the discussion on the HJR21 final report.
05:16:06 Due to technical difficulties, discussion was postponed.

RULE REVIEW SUMMARY

05:18:08 Ginger Aldrich, Staff Attorney ([Exhibit 21](#)) ([Exhibit 22](#)) ([Exhibit 23](#))

HJR 21 - STUDY OF PERSONAL INFORMATION OWNERSHIP - CONTINUED

05:21:16 Ms. Scurr read a statement she prepared as an opening paragraph for the chapter on HJR21 of the Final Report.
05:22:51 Rep. Bennett asked committee members for their recommendations about the statement that Ms. Scurr had read.

Committee Discussion and Possible Action on Final Recommendation or Statement

05:23:03 Rep. McKamey

05:23:50 Rep. McKamey

05:24:34 Ms. Scurr

05:24:47 Rep. Bennett

05:25:19 Rep. McKamey

05:25:35 Ms. Aldrich

05:25:52 Rep. Bennett

05:26:35 Sen. Larsen

05:27:24 Rep. Bennett

05:28:04 Rep. McKamey

05:29:17 Rep. Bennett

Note: at this time the discussed statement was available for view on the projector screen.

05:29:40 Rep. McKamey

05:30:49 Rep. Mandeville

05:31:13 Rep. Bennett

05:31:35 Sen. Windy Boy

05:31:50 Rep. Bennett

05:32:12 Rep. McKamey

05:32:38 Rep. Bennett

05:32:53 Sen. Larsen

05:34:27 Ms. Scurr

05:36:32 Sen. Larsen

05:37:00 Rep. Bennett

05:37:11 Rep. McKamey

05:38:01 Rep. Bennett

05:38:25 Ms. Scurr

FURTHER WORK SESSION ON LCvet3

05:38:49 Rep. Mandeville reminded the committee members that the committee needs to take executive action on LCvet3.

05:39:35 Rep. Bennett reiterated what the committee wanted to clarify about LCvet3.

05:41:21 Ms. Scurr discussed the definition of the term "primary care physician" as written in 33-22-1902, MCA. Ms. Scurr provided the definition that read "'Primary care physician' means a physician who has the responsibilities for providing initial and primary care to patients, for maintaining the continuity of patient care and for initiating referrals for special care."

Committee Discussion on the Term "Primary Care Physician" as It Applies to LCvet3

05:42:26 Sen. Larsen

05:43:14 Rep. McKamey

Motion

05:43:59 Rep. McKamey moved to remove subsection (1)(a) from LCvet3 in its entirety and substitute it with the definition of "primary care physician".

Discussion on the Motion

05:44:51 Rep. Bennett

Vote

05:45:17 The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote. Sen. Brown and Rep. Swanson were excused.

05:45:31 Ms. Scurr discussed the definitions of "emergency care provider" (ECP) and "mental health professional". Ms. Scurr defined "ECP" as an emergency care provided licensed by the board, including but not limited to an emergency medical responder, an emergency medical technician, an advanced emergency medical technician, or a paramedic. Ms. Scurr defined "mental health professional" as the following:

- (a) a certified professional person;
- (b) a physician licensed under Title 37, chapter 3;
- (c) a professional counselor licensed under Title 37, chapter 23;
- (d) a psychologist licensed under Title 37, chapter 17;
- (e) a social worker licensed under Title 37, chapter 22, or
- (f) an advanced practice registered nurse, as provided for in 37-8-202, with a clinical specialty in psychiatric mental health nursing.

05:46:10 Rep. McKamey asked Ms. Scurr for clarification on the terms as they are used in the current draft of LCvet3.

05:46:31 Ms. Scurr addressed Rep. McKamey's question and noted that earlier the committee included the term "mental health professional" without discussing its meaning.

Motion

05:47:37 Rep. Mandeville moved to strike EMT from LCvet3 and replace it with ECP as defined by Ms. Scurr.

Vote

05:48:15 The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote. Sen. Brown and Rep. Swanson were excused.

05:48:26 Ms. Scurr said that Ms. Aldrich has further clarification on the term "primary care physician".

05:48:41 Ms. Aldrich provided her suggestion on the language of the definition so that it would match the rest of the language in the bill draft.

Motion

05:49:25 Sen. Larsen moved to change the language in subsection (1)(a) in LCvet3 so that it would read "a physician licensed under Title 37, chapter 3, who has the responsibilities for providing initial and primary care to patients, for maintaining the continuity of patient care and for initiating referrals for special care.

Vote

05:49:31 The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote. Sen. Brown and Rep. Swanson were excused.

05:49:40 Sen. Kary suggested to remove "a certified professional person" and "a physician licensed under Title 37, chapter 3" from the definition of the "mental health professional" as defined by Ms. Scurr.

Commission Discussion on the Definition of "Mental Health Professional"

05:50:02 Ms. Scurr

05:50:26 Ms. Aldrich

05:51:09 Ms. Scurr

Motion

05:51:20 Rep. Mandeville moved to add "a professional counselor", "a psychologist", and "a social worker" in addition to "a registered nurse" and "a physician assistant" as those who need to complete suicidality assessment, treatment, and management training.

Discussion on the Motion

05:51:57 Rep. Bennett reiterated the motion

05:52:31 Rep. Mandeville

05:52:40 Rep. McKamey

05:53:06 Jean Branscum, Montana Medical Association

05:53:26 Rep. McKamey

05:53:39 Ms. Branscum

05:54:18 Rep. McKamey

05:54:41 Ms. Branscum

Motion

05:55:10 Sen. Kary moved to approve LCvet3 as amended as a committee bill.

Vote

05:55:32 The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote. Sen. Brown and Rep. Swanson were excused.

05:55:43 Rep. McKamey will carry the bill during the session.

05:56:41 Ms. Scurr reminded the committee members that the motion made by Rep. Mandeville needs to be voted on.

Motion

05:56:58 Rep. Mandeville's motion passed unanimously on a voice vote. Sen. Brown and Rep. Swanson were excused.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY MATTER UNDER THE COMMITTEE'S JURISDICTION - None

05:57:39 Rep. Bennett provided closing comments for the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

05:58:23 With no further business before the committee, Rep. Bennett adjourned the meeting at 2:58 p.m.