

Public Health Committee

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, February 14, 2018

11:03 AM in Room 1D of the LOB

The meeting was called to order at 11:03 AM by Chairwoman, Sen. Gerratana T. S06.

The following committee members were present:

Senators: Gerratana T. S06; Kennedy T. S12; Logan G. S17; Markley J. S16;
Somers H. S18

Representatives: Borer D. 115; Candelora V. 086; Carpino C. 032; Cook M. 065;
Cummings S. 074; Demicco M. 021; Genga H. 010; Klarides-Ditria
N. 105; McCarty K. 038; Perillo J. 113; Petit W. 022; Riley E. 046;
Ryan K. 139; Scanlon S. 098; Srinivasan P. 031; Staneski P. 119;
Steinberg J. 136; Winkler M. 056

Absent were:

Senators: Moore M. S22

Representatives: Betts W. 078; Juleson-Scopino K. 012; Tercyak P. 026

Senator Gerratana convened the meeting and opened up the floor to committee leadership for remarks.

Representative Srinivasan shared with the group that it was his 41st wedding anniversary. He noted that he had a lot of questions regarding some of the concepts in today's agenda.

Representative Borer remarked on how the Public Health Committee passed the greatest amount of bills last year in the House and Senate, and how that is a result of the bipartisan work and effort by members of the committee.

Senator Gerratana asked for a motion to raise concepts 1-13 on the agenda under Section III:

1. AAC Clinical Clerkship and Training
2. AA Enabling Collaborative Arrangements Between Physicians Assistants and Physicians
3. AAC the Prescribing of Controlled Substances Used in Medication-Assisted Treatment of Substance Use Disorders Through the Use of Telehealth
4. AA Adding Amniotic Fluid Embolism to the List of Adverse Events a Hospital is Required to Report to the Department of Public Health
5. AAC the Donation of Blood by Minors
6. AAC Minimum Quality Standards for Connecticut Scholl-Based Health Centers and Expanded School Health Sites
7. AA Raising the Age to Purchase Tobacco to 21
8. AAC Licensure Process for Professional Counselors
9. AAC Sober Living Homes
10. AAC End-of-Life Care
11. AAC Water Usage and Conservation During Drought Conditions
12. AAC Graduate Funding for the Intellectually Disabled
13. AAC Indoor Tanning

Representative Srinivasan offered the motion and Representative Ryan offered the second.

Senator Gerratana asked if members had any questions on any of the concepts.

Senator Markley asked for clarification on concept #10 on the agenda, AAC End-of-Life Care.

Senator Gerratana noted that this concept came from Representative Steinberg, and that there is a lot of interest in legislation that has passed in other states. She added that his concept would be a variation of that legislation, however, the Senator was unable to offer specific language of the bill as Representative Steinberg was not present during this question.

Senator Markley noted that this issue has been raised and discussed at great length in previous sessions, and that he felt we are doing a disservice to people on both sides of the issue by bringing it up for discussion again and giving false hope. He added that the

discussion has always ended without an effect on legislation, and thinks this will consume our time on an already short session and will again end without an effect on legislation.

Representative McCarty asked for clarification on concept #12 on the agenda, AAC Graduate Funding for the Intellectually Disabled.

Senator Gerratana noted that this concept came from herself, Senator Somers, and other members of the committee. There is no language available at this time, however, the chairs of the committee have met with advocates for individuals with developmental disabilities and are working on the language.

Representative Carpino asked for clarification on concept #9 on the agenda, AAC Sober Living Homes.

Senator Gerratana recognized Representative Cook to speak about the concept.

Representative Cook noted that both Democrats and Republicans offered/submitted proposals to discuss sober homes again as it passed in the House last session, but died in Senate. During the last session everyone's concerns were heard and the issue is being brought back again as it is important to communities.

Representative Carpino noted that she knows the issue, and offered her assistance in moving the bill forward.

Representative Srinivasan asked for elaboration on concept #2 on the agenda, AA Enabling Collaborative Arrangements Between Physicians Assistants and Physicians, and asked if it had gone through scope review.

Senator Gerratana noted that physician assistants went to the Department of Public Health, but it was not chosen for scope review. She also noted that the chairs of the committee met with physician assistants and their representatives, and they had ideas about the language but do not have anything specific yet.

Representative Srinivasan asked for elaboration on concept #4 on the agenda, AA Adding Amniotic Fluid Embolism to the List of Adverse Events a Hospital is Required to Report to the Department of Public Health.

Senator Gerratana noted that this is a very rare condition and does not think there will be any real opposition to the concept, however, she noted that members are here to hear and figure out bills.

Senator Gerratana asked for a voice vote on the agenda.

The motion passed on a voice vote.

Senator Gerratana noted that the next Public Health Committee meeting will be this Friday, 2/16/18, at 11:00 AM in Room 1D of the LOB.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 PM.

Beverley Henry
Administrator

Valentina Mehmeti
Committee Clerk
