

Public Health Committee

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, February 21, 2018

11:08 AM in Room 1D of the LOB

The meeting was called to order at 11:03 AM by Chairwoman, Sen. Somers H. S18.

The following committee members were present:

Senators: Gerratana T. S06; Kennedy T. S12; Logan G. S17; Markley J. S16;  
Moore M. S22; Somers H. S18

Representatives: Betts W. 078; Borer D. 115; Candelora V. 086; Carpino C. 032;  
Cook M. 065; Cummings S. 074; Demicco M. 021; Klarides-Ditria  
N. 105; McCarty K. 038; Perillo J. 113; Petit W. 022; Riley E. 046;  
Ryan K. 139; Srinivasan P. 031; Staneski P. 119; Steinberg J. 136;  
Winkler M. 056

Absent were:

Senators:

Representatives: Genga H. 010; Juleson-Scopino K. 012; Scanlon S. 098; Tercyak  
P. 026

The meeting was called to order at 11:03 AM by Chairwoman, Sen. Somers S18.

Sen. Somers opened the floor to committee leadership for remarks. Hearing none, Sen. Somers then requested a motion to raise concepts 1-22 on today's agenda.

1. AAC Water Quality and Testing
2. AAC Urgent Care Centers

3. AAC the Office of Health Strategy
4. AAC Disparities in the Healthcare System
5. AAC Naturopaths
6. AAC Massage Therapists
7. AAC Independent Licensure for Birthing Centers
8. AA Requiring a Study of Optional Admission into an Adoption Registry
9. AAC Ownership of Surgical Facilities by Dentists
10. AAC the Licensure of Pharmaceutical Detailers
11. AAC Colonoscopies and Endoscopies
12. AAC Post Graduate Training for Dentists
13. AA Allowing Dental Assistants to Apply Fluoride Varnish
14. AA Establishing a Pilot to Serve People Seeking Residential Services from the Department of Developmental Services
15. AA Identifying Ways for State Government to Partner with Hospitals
16. AAC Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and the Use of Automated External Defibrillator
17. AAC the Psychiatric Security Review Board
18. AA Establishing a Working Group to Enhance Physician Recruitment in Connecticut
19. AAC Truth in Advertising by Physicians
20. AAC Telehealth Services
21. AAC Access to Information Regarding the Safety of Sports Helmets
22. AAC Respiratory Care Practitioners

Rep. Cook offered the motion and Rep. Borer offered the second.

Rep. Staneski requested clarification regarding item # 13 on the agenda: AA Allowing Dental Assistants to Apply Fluoride Varnish. She asked if it is possible to add dental therapists to this bill.

Sen. Somers explained that this request was made by the Dentists to allow dental assistants to apply the fluoride varnish and was not a dental therapist bill.

Rep. Staneski then asked if she could speak to the Chairs after the meeting regarding the dental therapist issue.

Sen. Somers said it would be fine.

Sen. Markley asked how many bills the Public Health Committee has raised thus far.

Sen. Somers responded that the committee has raised 51 bills.

Sen. Markley then asked if this was the last meeting to raise bills.

Sen. Somers responded that it should be.

Sen. Markley asked for further clarification of item # 19 on the agenda: AAC Truth in Advertising by Physicians.

Sen. Somers explained the concept was requested to require physicians who advertise that they are board certified to make clear the area(s) in which they are certified. In some cases, a physician may be board certified but not necessarily in the area in which they are providing a particular service. This will allow the public more protection and to be more well-informed.

In response to Sen. Markley's previous question regarding the number of bills raised by the committee, Rep. Srinivasan commented that even though it is a short session, other committees have raised more bills than Public Health Committee.

Sen. Markley thanked Rep. Srinivasan for his comments and remarked that Human Services did not raise as many bills as Public Health Committee

Rep. Petit made a last minute request from the Home Health Care people, who are already significantly burdened by regulation, to perhaps address their concern in a bill that has already been raised by the Committee.

Sen. Somers then asked for a voice vote on Concepts 1-22 on the agenda.

The motion passed on a voice vote.

Sen. Somers requested a motion on Section 4, Item 1 on the agenda: [Proposed S.B. No. 73](#) AN ACT EXPANDING ACCESS TO AND INCREASING FUNDING FOR FACILITIES TREATING OPIOID ADDICTION.

Sen. Gerrantana offered the motion and Rep. Cook offered the second.

The motion passed on a voice vote.

Sen. Somers said the vote for this committee meeting will be held open until the start of the first session.

Sen. Somers recessed the meeting and noted that the next Public Health Committee meeting will be held Friday, February 23, 2018, at 11:00 AM in Room ID of the LOB.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:57 PM.

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Beverly Henry  
Administrator

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Kathleen Panazza  
Committee Assistant Clerk