Human Services Committee

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, March 7, 2019

10:00 AM in Room 2A of the LOB

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM and recessed until 10:15 AM by Rep. Abercrombie, C. 83. The meeting was called back to order at 10:15 AM by Sen. Moore, M. S22

The following committee members were present:

Senators: Logan G. S17; Maroney J. S14; Moore M. S22; Slap D. S05

Representatives: Abercrombie C. 083; Butler L. 072; Case J. 063; Cook M. 065; D’Amelio A. 071; Dathan L. 142; Green R. 055; Hughes A. 135; Mastrofrancesco G. 080; McGee B. 005; Santiago H. 084; Stallworth C. 126; Wilson Pheanious P. 053; Wood T. 141

Absent were:

Senators:

Representatives: Sredzinski J. 112

Sen. Moore, M. S22 called the meeting to order at 10:15 am and greeted everyone. Sen. Moore welcomed Sen. Slap, D. S05 to the committee and announced he was replacing Sen. Haskell. She also wished Senator Logan a Happy Belated Birthday.


Sen. Moore introduced the interpreters who would be assisting in the public hearing following the meeting.
III. JF TO THE FLOOR

1. **S.B. 896 (RAISED) AN ACT ESTABLISHING RATIONAL HOSPITAL PRICING.**
   Rep. Wood stated she likes the concept.
   Sen. Moore called for vote

2. **S.B. 837 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING MEDICAID PAYMENT RATES FOR NURSE-MIDWIVES.**
   Rep. Mastrofrancesco had some concerns on this bill. She stated the gynecologists are going to expect increases in their pay, due to the difference in degrees and expertise between midwives and gynecologists.
   Rep. Green asked, “What are the midwives hoping to receive as pay?”
   Rep. Abercrombie stated that Connecticut is one of the few states that do not equally pay midwives.
   Sen. Moore called for vote.

3. **S.B 898 (RAISED) AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE HISPANIC AND FELLOW COMMUNITIES OF COLOR NONPROFIT STABILIZATION AND GROWTH FUND.**
   Rep. Case asked if this bill is requesting more money to be added to nonprofits or move the money amongst the nonprofits.
   Rep. Abercrombie stated that the nonprofits are looking to change language under the item and stated that there is a request for a second group to oversee the money.
   Rep. Mastrofrancesco questioned if this bill will require money being taken away from groups that already exist. She is concerned that this bill doesn’t seem to have equal opportunities for everyone and this would separate individuals by race.
   Rep. Abercrombie responded, stating, “That’s how it is already setup”.
   Rep. Mastrofrancesco said she cannot support this bill.
   Sen. Moore expressed that if we lived in a perfect world, there would be equal opportunity already established. She also mentioned that this bill is meant to ensure that we all would be on a level playing field.
   Senator Moore called for a vote on the bill.

4. **H.B 7166 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING NONEMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION FOR MEDICAID BENEFICIARIES.**

5. **H.B. 7093 (RAISED) AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO INCREASE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES.**
   Sen. Moore called for roll call.
Sen. Moore announced No. 6 will be held on the agenda.

7. **S.B 821 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING EQUITABLE MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT FOR FEDERALLY QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTER PRACTITIONERS.**
Sen. Moore called for roll call.

8. **H.B 7122 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING MOBILE DENTAL CLINICS.**
Rep. Mastrofrancesco asked if this bill will have a fiscal note.
Rep. Abercrombie responded that there shouldn’t be.

Sen. Moore called for vote, followed with an announcement of the public hearing beginning at 11:00 a.m. She also announced the next committee meeting will be held on March 12, 2019. She recessed the meeting at 10:42 A.M, the meeting was formally adjourned at 4 pm.