Public Health Committee

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, January 16, 2019

1:30 PM in Room 1D of the LOB

The meeting was called to order at 1:33 PM by Chairman, Rep. Steinberg J. 136.

The following committee members were present:

Senators: Abrams M. S13; Cohen C. S12; Lesser M. S09; Moore M. S22; Somers H. S18

Representatives: Arnone T. 058; Betts W. 078; Borer D. 115; Candelora V. 086; Carpino C. 032; Comey R. 102; Cook M. 065; Demicco M. 021; Genga H. 010; Hennessy J. 127; Kennedy K. 119; Klarides-Ditria N. 105; McCarty K. 038; Michel D. 146; Petit W. 022; Ryan K. 139; Scanlon S. 098; Steinberg J. 136; Tercyak P. 026; Young P. 120

Absent were:

Senators:

Representatives: Rebimbas R. 070 070

Rep. Steinberg welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Public Health Committee.

Rep. Steinberg introduced himself as the House Co-chair of the committee and Sen. Abrams as the Senate Co-chair of the committee

Rep. Steinberg remarked how pleased he was to see all the members and their willingness to serve. It is certainly indicative of the importance of the issues before this committee as we strive to serve the needs of the people of this state.
Rep. Steinberg noted that he has co-chaired the committee for the previous two years and shared some of his background.

Rep. Steinberg welcomed all the returning members as well as the new members. He noted that he does not believe any specific experience is needed to serve except a strong willingness to commit to, and understand the issues that will be before the committee. He indicated that the committee has the opportunity to make a positive impact regarding these important issues.

Sen. Abrams introduced herself and expressed her honor to be the Senate Co-chair of this important committee. She shared her strong passion regarding public health issues and looks forward with excitement to working with Rep. Steinberg and all the members of the committee.

Rep. Steinberg asked each member of the committee to introduce themselves, the district they represent and, if they choose, to share a little background regarding their interest in serving on the committee.

Following the introductions, Rep. Steinberg noted the passion for the issues important to the members and the breadth of topics that the committee might take on. Although it may not be possible to address all of them, it is very gratifying to hear the enthusiasm expressed by each member as the committee begins the work on many of the topics mentioned.

Rep. Steinberg referred all the members to the packets they received at the beginning of the meeting and reviewed the contents which included the schedule for committee meetings and public hearings, a list of the important committee deadlines and a list of the committee membership.

Rep. Steinberg explained that due to a scheduled House Session for Wednesday, January 30th, the committee received special dispensation to hold a committee meeting on Thursday January 31st.

Rep. Steinberg introduced the committee staff and expressed his gratitude for their work and encouraged the members to get to know the staff and to rely on their expertise and assistance.

Rep. Steinberg announced the next meeting of the committee for Friday, January 18th, at 11:00 AM in Room 1D.

Sen. Abrams expressed how happy she is to see so many familiar faces and her excitement to begin the important work of the committee with all the members.

Rep. Petit asked if the attendance could be left open so that Rep. Rebimbas who is currently in Judiciary screening bills could be recorded.

Rep. Petit also announced an HRO caucus following the recess.

Rep. Steinberg noted the meeting attendance will be held open until 5:00PM.

Rep. Genga expressed his gratitude for the packet passed out to members.
Rep. Steinberg said the credit for the production of the packet goes to the Committee Administrator Beverley Henry and the staff.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00PM.

Beverley Henry
Administrator

Kathleen Panazza
Committee Assistant Clerk