Commission on Enhancing Agency Outcomes

MEETING MINUTES

Monday, November 29, 2010

10:00 AM in Room 2B of the LOB

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Chairman, Sen. Slossberg G. S14.

Senator Slossberg gave everybody a few minutes to read over the proposals and indicated that if people need more time we can take a recess. She thanked the staff and began discussion on proposed recommendations.

Secretary Cicchetti missed the first meeting when they spoke in depth over the first proposal. He is very supportive of it but did indicate that it needs more work. Each agency has their particular needs and we need to take that into account. We also need more time to vet out the dollar amount.

Senator Slossberg indicated that her expectation was that we vote on these recommendations and then review. It is ultimately up to governor which of these recommendations moves forward. Nothing here can be implanted tomorrow.

Secretary Cicchetti does not support the closing of Southbury Training School. He believes that the population for which it cares might be too old to be moved into the community environment.

Senator Slossberg responded that the recommendation clearly does not call for the closing of the facility, and wants that to be clear before voting.

Chancellor Cibes said that this recommendation is a very good median approach and indicated that further investigation is needed for recommendations 3 and 4. Our approach is sensitive and that motion doesn’t move to privatization. Program Review
and Investigations has asked for cost analysis in the past and never received a response back.

Secretary Cicchetti requested that the committee split the recommendation into two; voting separately on Southbury Training School and then on Riverview Hospital. The difference is that one facility cares for elderly and the other for children. He thinks that Riverview Hospital may be better to review, and that there is less to review at Southbury Training School.

Senator Slossberg asked if any member of the Commission had an objection to splitting the two facilities into separate recommendations. There was no objection.

Senator LeBeau asked who would be part of these working groups for these facilities. Southbury Training School’s working group would include DDS at minimum. Once we have a draft of the report, we would seek out other members for the working group for Southbury Training School.

Representative Mushinsky made a few comments about Riverview Hospital. She said that we need to look for ways on how to handle the children who are cared for at the hospital. They will need much psychiatric help before going back into the community environment. It would be better to invest more money in the kids before they get to Riverview Hospital.

Senator Slossberg said that it is very important that we consolidate our Human Resources, but doesn’t think that the savings are significant enough. She doesn’t want to throw out an arbitrary number.

Discussion continued on the proposed recommendations.

There is a voice vote taken on numbers 1-33 which all pass.

The Commission had finished with the numbered items. There was a suggestion to take the rest of the items (A-S, removing P for language changes) and vote on them all at once. The motion to vote on all items except “P”, carries. The Commission moved on to item “P” for language change.

There was a voice vote on item “P” which carried.

The Commission moved on to discussion of items of further exploration, including E-government initiatives, streamlining of licensing, and cross training for agency personnel. Representative Spallone requested the addition of reforming the of process of the sale of state property.

A motion was duly made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

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Kate Shea
Committee Clerk