

Certificate of Need Taskforce

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, August 11, 2022

2:00 PM in Zoom and YouTube Live

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM by Chairman, Rep. Wood K. 029.

Rep. Wood K. 029 started the meeting and welcomed the members to the first meeting. Sen. Lesser, M. S09 joined in opening remarks.

Taskforce members introduced themselves and stated some goals and takeaways that they were looking for in the meetings.

Moving to agenda item III, Rep. Wood K. 029. Asked for a review Public Act 22-118 for OHS to provide an overview of the latest issues surrounding Certificate of Need.

OHS Acting Director Kim Martone provided some feedback and the OHS staff present provided and update on the new fee scale and definitions regarding CON. Additional information can be found at the OHS website:

<https://portal.ct.gov/OHS/Pages/Certificate-of-Need/CON-Portal>

Rep. Wood K. 029 followed up with questions to OHS. Followed with questions from Dan Keenan, John Brady, Patrick Charmel, and Rep. Pavalock-D'Amato, C. 077.

Rep. Wood K. 029 moved on to agenda item IV to discuss the objectives of the taskforce.

Sen. Lesser, M. S09 read off the recommendations listed in the public act:

The task force shall study and make recommendations concerning the following matters:

- (1) The institution of a price increase cap that is tied to the cost growth benchmark for consolidations;
- (2) guaranteed local representation of communities on hospital boards;

- (3) changes to the Office of Health Strategy's long-term, state-wide health plan to include an analysis of services and facilities and the impact of such services and facilities on equity and underserved populations;
- (4) setting standards for measuring quality as a result of a consolidation;
- (5) enacting higher penalties for noncompliance and increasing the staff needed for enforcement;
- (6) the Attorney General's authority to stop activities as the result of a certificate of need application or complaint;
- (7) the ability of representatives of the workforce and the community to intervene or appeal decisions;
- (8) giving the Office of Health Strategy the authority to require an ongoing investment to address community needs;
- (9) capturing lost property taxes from hospitals that have converted to nonprofit entities; and
- (10) the timeliness of decisions or approvals relating to the certificate of need process and relief available through such process.

Rep. Wood K. 029 summarized the discussion and wrapped up the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:36 PM.

Alexander Pachkovsky
Committee Clerk