

Insurance and Real Estate Committee

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, September 29, 2022

11:00 AM in Zoom and YouTube Live

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

Rep Wood started the meeting, welcomed members, and thanked for participation

Committee approved the minutes – motion to approve by John Brady, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Daniel Keenan

Public Comment section:

Dr. Michael Crain – Radiologist – CON program relating to imaging equipment has been reviewed often with no changes recommended. Small practices need to come up with the money to buy newest equipment. If no oversight with CON a large company could effectively own/buy that equipment and open a center down the street and undercut the smaller providers significantly.

Frances Padilla – Pres of Universal Health Care Foundation CT – Grassroots – start and end with the question "what about the people?" CT residents depend on hospitals for access for affordable quality care without racial, gender or economic disparities or inequities. This is less and less the case as time passes. Task force in 2017 dealt with all the same questions we are facing now because the recommendations were not implemented – No consensus and little action then. Her Recommendations: Don't reinvent the wheel, bring in experts, develop implementation recommendations, get to root causes of the problem. Follow thru on the recommendations made by TF.

Discussion groups reports:

Group A: Daniel Keenan – had initial meeting made assignments to members on smaller issues. Plan to leverage things taking place in other states.

Group B: None

Group C & D: Nancy Heaton – set future meetings – brief discussions on each of the topics – figure out what more info is needed so that info can be obtained – what actually exists and what models are out there. Clarifying the questions. Brenda Buchbinder – spoke to the subject of maternity units. Determination of services is a major issue. Definition is helpful and we need to get more specific with those.

Group E: Dr. Thomas Farquhar – started conversation and reaching out to the CT hospital association which should have some state-by-state comparisons. CON process is part of a larger more complex healthcare environment and to remove it

completely without replacing the good parts would have a lot of unintended downstream consequences. Patrick Charmel – getting some info for other states who have both strengthened and eliminated CON and the unintended consequences. Learning from their mistakes

Rep. Wood – discussed that we would leave room for public comment as well as experts. How can we better facilitate these discussions?

Brenda Buchbinder – noticed that the 2017 report didn't have many good and productive recommendations. We need to look at state as a whole and pay attention to health care deserts. We have the opportunity here to make CT a better state for healthcare.

Rep. Wood announced next dates: Oct 18<sup>th</sup> at 3pm and Nov 17<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am. Changing up day and time to allow more people to attend.

Adjourned at 11:30am