

MINUTES
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, AND LABOR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, AND LABOR
Meeting Jointly
Wednesday, June 4, 2025
10:00 AM
Room A, MAC
Little Rock, Arkansas

Committee members present: Senators Dave Wallace, Vice Chair; Ricky Hill, Fredrick J. Love, John Payton, and Clint Penzo; Representatives Jeff Wardlaw, Chair; Jeremy Wooldridge, Vice Chair; Fred Allen, Glenn Barnes, Mary Bentley, Cameron Cooper, Denise Jones Ennett, Kenneth B. Ferguson, Zack Gramlich, Lee Johnson, Jack Ladyman, Mark Perry, Aaron Pilkington, Jay Richardson, and Bart Schulz

Other members present: Senators Justin Boyd, Steve Crowell, Tyler Dees, Jamie Scott, and Dan Sullivan; Representatives Howard M. Beaty, Jr., Keith Brooks, Nick Burkes, Paul Childress, Jon S. Eubanks, Joy Springer, and Tracy Steele

Representative Wardlaw called the meeting to order.

Department of Human Services (DHS), Division of County Operations and Division of Medical Services, Review of Rule, Pregnant Presumptive Eligibility [Exhibit B]

Elizabeth Pitman, Director, Division of Medical Services, DHS; Mary Franklin, Director, Director of the Division of County Operations, DHS; Janet Mann, Deputy Secretary and State Medicaid Director, DHS; and Matt Gilmore, Public Health Programs Policy/Boards and Commissions Coordinator, Arkansas Department of Health; discussed the rule to add presumptive eligibility for pregnant women under a Medicaid service category.

Representative Wardlaw stated that, without objection, this rule stands as reviewed.

DHS, Division of Medical Services, Review of Rule, Obstetric Professional Rate Increase and Unbundling [Exhibit C]

Elizabeth Pitman, Director, Division of Medical Services, DHS; Janet Mann, Deputy Secretary and State Medicaid Director, DHS; and Matt Gilmore, Public Health Programs Policy/Boards and Commissions Coordinator, Arkansas Department of Health; discussed the rule to revise the rates and claims process for prenatal, delivery, and postpartum professional services under Medicaid.

Representative Wardlaw stated that, without objection, this rule stands as reviewed.

Department of Energy & Environment (E&E), Division of Environmental Quality, Review of Rule, Rule No. 2, Rule Establishing Water Quality Standards for Surface Waters of the State of Arkansas [Exhibits D1-D2]

Kesia Morrison, Chief Counsel, E&E, and Bailey Taylor, Chief Administrator, Division of Environmental Quality, E&E, discussed amending the rule related to water quality standards to comply with the Clean Water Act.

Representative Wardlaw stated that, without objection, this rule stands as reviewed.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.