

**MINUTES**  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, AND LABOR**  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, AND LABOR**  
**Meeting Jointly**  
**Monday, December 8, 2025**  
**1:00 PM**  
**Room A, MAC Little Rock, Arkansas**

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Committee members present: Senators Missy Irvin, Chair; Scott Flipppo, and Fredrick J. Love; Representatives Jeff Wardlaw, Chair; Jeremy Wooldridge, Vice Chair; Fred Allen, Glenn Barnes, Mary Bentley, Cameron Cooper, Denise Jones Ennett, Dolly Henley, Jack Ladyman, Wayne Long, Stephen Magie, Kendra Moore, Mark Perry, Aaron Pilkington, and Jay Richardson

Other members present: Senators Jane English, Ben Gilmore and Bryan King; Representatives Lincoln Barnett, Howard Beaty, Jr., Rick Beck, Stan Berry, Paul Childress, Les Eaves, Jon S. Eubanks, Rick McClure, David Ray, Johnny Rye, Joy Springer, and Dwight Tosh

Senator Irvin called the meeting to order.

**Consideration to Approve the November 6, 2025, Meeting Minutes [Exhibit B]**

Senator Love made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Representative Richardson, and the motion carried.

**Discussion of \$10.5 Million Grant Awarded to UAMS for the Development of Biomarkers for Human Diseases Including Cancer**

Alan Tackett, Ph.D., Deputy Director, Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute, UAMS, and Andy Davis, Vice Chancellor of Institutional Relations and Chief Government Affairs Officer, UAMS, gave an overview of a recent grant awarded by the National Institute of Health to aid in the development of biomarker testing, allowing physicians to detect and treat diseases early on.

**Update on Department of Human Services (DHS) Response to Government Reopening Including Impacts on SNAP Funding**

Janet Mann, Secretary, DHS; Misty Eubanks, Deputy Secretary for Operations and Budget, DHS; and Mary Franklin, Director of the Division of County Operations, DHS; provided an update regarding DHS's response to the government reopening, including confirmation that all beneficiaries of SNAP have received their full benefits.

**Other Business**

Senator Irvin reminded the committees about Christmas at the Capitol on December 11 at 1:30 p.m., in the Old Supreme Court Room.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.