

MINUTES
SENATE COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE AND COMMERCE
House Committee on Insurance and Commerce
Meeting Jointly
Monday, November 3, 2025
10:00 AM
Room A, MAC
Little Rock, Arkansas

Committee members present: Senators Blake Johnson, Chair; Justin Boyd, Vice-Chair; Stephanie Flowers, Missy Irvin, and Clint Penzo; Representatives John Maddox, Chair; Trey Steimel, Vice-Chair; Brandon Achor, Fred Allen, Carol Dalby, Les D. Eaves, Jon S. Eubanks, Kenneth B. Ferguson, Zack Gramlich, Lee Johnson, Jack Ladyman, Robin Lundstrum, Richard McGrew, Mark Perry, Jay Richardson, Dwight Tosh, Les Warren, and Jim Wooten

Other members present: Senators Tyler Dees and Jim Dotson; Representatives Stan Berry, Harlan Breaux, Paul Childress, Denise Jones Ennett, Mindy McAlindon, Kendra Moore, Jason Nazarenko, Stetson Painter, Shad Pearce, Aaron Pilkington, Chad Puryear, David Ray, Ryan A. Rose, Johnny Rye, Joy Springer, Tracy Steele, Kendon Underwood, DeAnn Vaught, Jeff Wardlaw, and Jeremy Wooldridge

Representative Maddox called the meeting to order.

Consideration of a Motion to Authorize Chairs to Approve Special Expenses Incurred by the Committee
Senator Boyd made a motion to authorize Chairs to approve special expenses incurred by the Committees, seconded by Representative Steimel, and the motion carried.

Consideration to Approve the December 16, 2024, Meeting Minutes [Exhibit C]

Senator Boyd made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Senator Irvin, and the motion carried.

Consideration for Adoption of Interim Study Proposals (ISPs) [Exhibits D2-D9]

Senator Boyd made a motion to batch ISPs D2-D9, seconded by Representative Ladyman, and the motion carried.

Consideration for Adoption of ISPs [Exhibits D10-D15]

Senator Boyd made a motion to batch ISPs D10-D15, seconded by Representative Ladyman, and the motion carried.

Consideration to Withdraw ISP D1 [Exhibit D1]

Senator Boyd made a motion to withdraw ISP D1, seconded by Senator Irvin, and the motion carried.

Discussion of ISP D14 by Representative Gramlich – To Adopt the Fair and Efficient Transmission Compact [Exhibit E]

Representative Gramlich; Steve Purdy, Technical Director for Engineering Policy, Southwest Power Pool; Daniel Berkowitz, Bekaert Corporation; Danni Hoefer, Arkansas Public Service Commission; and Brent Bailey, Vice President, EPL Advisors; discussed ISP D14 by Representative Gramlich – To Adopt the Fair and Efficient Transmission Compact.

Recognition of Arkansas Department of Human Services, Quarterly Report Concerning the Progress and Activities for a Psychiatric Collaborative Care Model [Exhibit F]

Representative Maddox recognized the Arkansas Department of Human Services, Quarterly Report Concerning the Progress and Activities for a Psychiatric Collaborative Care Model, submitted pursuant to A.C.A. § 23-99-422 (f)(1) - (f)(2) (Act 615 of 2023).

Discussion Regarding Negotiations Between United Healthcare and NEA Baptist Memorial Hospital

Jimmy Harris, Insurance Commissioner; Sara Farris, General Counsel, Arkansas Insurance Department; and Melissa Rust, Vice President, the Office of University Relations, University of Arkansas System; provided an update on the negotiations between United Healthcare and NEA Baptist Memorial Hospital.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

DRAFT