

MINUTES OF THE
JOINT HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES APPROPRIATION SUBCOMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 1999, 2:00 P.M.
Room 403, State Capitol Building

Members Present: Rep. Bill Wright, Committee Co-Chair
 Sen. Edgar Allen
 Sen. Steve Poulton
 Rep. Trisha Beck
 Rep. David L. Hogue
 Rep. Bryan D. Holladay
 Rep. Matt Throckmorton

Members Excused: Sen. Robert Muhlestein, Committee Co-Chair

Members Absent: Rep. Loretta Baca
 Rep. J.W. "Bill" Hickman

Staff Present: Spencer Pratt, Legislative Fiscal Analyst
 Thor Nilsen, Legislative Fiscal Analyst
 Bonnie Brinton, Secretary

Others Present: Dr. J. Brett Lazar, Director, Weber-Morgan Health Department
 Rod Betit, Executive Director, Department of Health
 Dr. Richard Melton, Deputy Director, Office of Executive Director
 Dr. Charles Brokopp Director, Division of Epidemiology and Laboratory Services
 George Delavan, Director, Division of Community and Family Health Services
 Patrick Johnson, Executive Director, Health Policy Commission
 Gar Eliason, Department of Health
 Gina Pola-Money, Volunteer Coordinator, Legislative Coalition for People with
 Disabilities/Family Voices

List of Others Present on File.

Committee Co-Chair Wright called the meeting to order at 2:07 p.m.

A. Other Business: Local Health Departments

Dr. Brett Lazar spoke regarding reasons for State participation with local health departments. The system provides for local health departments to contract with the State for services. He urged a Cost of Living Adjustment for local health departments which would equal the COLA for state employees and funding the Immunization and Primary Care increases. Dr. Lazar endorsed funding Health Data Analysis at the 1999 level.

B. Committee Discussion

Rep. Hogue expressed concerns regarding the Veteran Nursing Home. He asked how long the government would stay with the contractor and how long the contractor would be willing to pay \$1.1 million to keep it going. He clarified that the State does not have any liability and that the contractor has all of the financial risk.

Rod Betit spoke regarding patient liability at the Veteran Nursing Home. He stated that the Department of Health had no feeling at the present time that any patients are at risk. On Wednesday or Thursday of this week, federal certification examiners are inspecting the Nursing Home. The existing contract can be terminated if the Home does not comply with certification and a new contractor can be hired. The State carries insurance against

contract liability.

Sen. Poulton asked the Analyst to prepare summary tables of budgets contained in his report for committee members.

C. Approval of Minutes of January 22 and 25, 1999

MOTION: Rep. Hogue moved to approve the minutes of January 22 and 25, 1999. The motion passed unanimously.

Co-Chair Wright encouraged committee members to study the issues and share information gained with other committee members.

D. Budget Hearing: Department of Health: Epidemiology and Laboratory Services

1. Fiscal Analyst

The Analyst has recommended a total budget of \$10,530,00 for Epidemiology and Laboratory Services for FY 2000, which includes \$4,496,100 from General Funds and \$3,765,700 from Federal Funds.

Rep. Hogue requested a list of expenditures for state employee salaries. Mr. Pratt will supply this list to interested committee members.

2. Department of Health

Dr. Richard Melton, Deputy Director, and Dr. Charles Brokopp, Director, Division of Epidemiology and Laboratory Services, stated their agreement with the recommendation of the Analyst. They also stated that there is a general decrease in federal funding to all states. They discussed the tests performed by this department and stated that the tests are at times done for the benefit of the general public, not necessarily for the patient. The only services they provide that are required by the state are newborn screening and some occupational HIV testing.

E. Budget Hearing: Department of Health: Community and Family Health Services

1. Fiscal Analyst

The Analyst has recommended a total budget of \$72,876,200 for Community and Family Health Services for FY 2000, which includes \$10,921,100 from General Funds and \$47,549,600 from Federal Funds.

Mr. Pratt explained the Utah Tomorrow program as requested by committee members.

2. Department of Health

Dr. Scott Williams, Deputy Director, Division of Community and Family Health Services, and Dr. George Delavan, Director, expressed appreciation to Mr. Pratt for his efforts on this budget and presented the issues of concern.

F. Budget Hearing: Department of Health: Health Policy Commission

1. Fiscal Analyst

The Analyst recommends a total budget for the Health Policy Commission of \$424,300.

2. Department of Health

Patrick Johnson, Executive Director, Health Policy Commission, addressed the key issues regarding the Health Policy Commission including the need for the replacement of two board members, uninsurable individuals, insurance and health care reform, Telehealth, CHIP and Substance Abuse.

G. Budget Hearing: Department of Health: Medical Education Program

1. Fiscal Analyst

The Analyst recommends a budget of \$40,000 for FY 2000 for the Medical Education Programs. This funding is from dedicated credits. This budget is new to this committee this year.

2. Department of Health

Gar Elison, Policy Consultant, Health Policy Commission, expressed his concern regarding funding of the training programs for physicians and recruiting of physicians to Utah. He presented information about the Medical Education Council.

H. Public Testimony

Gina Pola-Money, Volunteer Coordinator, Legislative Coalition for People with Disabilities/Family Voices, spoke in support of early intervention, immunization for uninsured, and home visitation from public health nurses.

MOTION: Rep. Holladay moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Co-Chair Wright adjourned the meeting at 4:35 p.m.

Minutes were reported by Bonnie Brinton, Secretary.

Sen. Robert Muhlestein, Co-Chair

Rep. Bill Wright, Co-Chair