



# MINUTES

## CHILD WELFARE LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT PANEL

Thursday, November 10, 2022 | 2:00 p.m. | 450 State Capitol

### Members Present:

Sen. John D. Johnson, Chair  
Rep. Christine F. Watkins, Chair  
Rep. Cheryl K. Acton  
Rep. Sandra Hollins

### Staff Present:

Mark D. Andrews, Policy Analyst  
Victoria Ashby, Associate General Counsel  
Michelle Clifford, Administrative Assistant

Note: A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at [www.le.utah.gov](http://www.le.utah.gov).

Chair Watkins called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

### 1. Committee Business

[1.1 REPORT: Qualitative Case Reviews and Case Process Reviews, FY22 \(Source: DHHS\)](#)

[1.2 REPORT: Utah Psychotropic Medication Oversight Program, FY22 \(Source: DCFS\)](#)

[1.3 REPORT: Office of Child Protection Ombudsman, FY22 \(Source: OCPO\)](#)

[1.4 REPORT: Child Welfare Statutory Time Requirements, FY22 \(Source: AOC\)](#)

[1.5 REPORT: Child Welfare Parental Representation Program, FY22 \(Source: Utah Indigent Defense Commission\)](#)

**MOTION:** Representative Acton moved to approve the minutes of the October 22, 2021, meeting. The motion passed with a vote of 3 - 0 - 1.

Yeas - 3

Rep. C. Acton  
Sen. J. Johnson  
Rep. C. Watkins

Nays - 0

Absent - 1

Rep. S. Hollins

### 2. Kin Placements

[3.1 BACKGROUND: Appropriate Permanency for Children in State Care \(Source: DCFS\)](#)

[3.2 BACKGROUND: Kinship Preference Presentation to Administrative Rules Review Committee \(Source: OLRGC\)](#)

Tonya Myrup, Director, DCFS, spoke about kinship care placements and answered questions from panel members.

Adam Trupp, Assistant Director, Indigent Defense Commission, commented about kin placements.

Tonya Myrup responded to questions from Panel members.

Mike Hamblin, CEO, Utah Foster Care, commented about kin placements.

Encarni Gallardo, Executive Director, Children's Services Study of Utah, commented about kin placements.

### 3. Child Fatality Review

Chair Watkins prepared to close the meeting.

## 2.1 REPORT: Fatality Reviews Summary, FY22 (Source: DHHS)

## 2.2 Fatality Review (Source: DHHS)

**MOTION:** Representative Acton moved to close the meeting to discuss fatality review reports, responses to fatality review reports, or an individual case. The motion passed with a vote of 4 - 0 - 0.

Yeas - 4 Nays - 0 Absent - 0  
Rep. C. Acton  
Rep. S. Hollins  
Sen. J. Johnson  
Rep. C. Watkins

The meeting was reopened.

Jennifer Mendelson, Fatality Review Coordinator, DHHS, presented the fatality review annual report and answered questions from committee members with the assistance of Mike Hamblin, Tonya Myrup, Jennifer Mendelson, and Kyla Clark, Strengthening Families Program Administrator, DCFS.

Melina Moore, foster parent, commented about kin placements.

Tara Gailey, employee, Utah Foster Care, and foster parent, commented about kin placements.

Heather Heugly, foster parent, commented about kin placements.

Chair Watkins thanked presenters and attendees.

**MOTION:** Representative Hollins moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 4 - 0 - 0.

Yeas - 4 Nays - 0 Absent - 0  
Rep. C. Acton  
Rep. S. Hollins  
Sen. J. Johnson  
Rep. C. Watkins

Chair Watkins adjourned the meeting.