



MINUTES

HOUSE POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS STANDING COMMITTEE

Wednesday, February 21, 2024 | 4:00 p.m. | 120 Senate Building

Members Present:

Rep. James A. Dunnigan, Chair
Rep. Michael L. Kohler, Vice Chair
Rep. Gay Lynn Bennion
Rep. James Cobb
Rep. Paul A. Cutler
Rep. Matthew H. Gwynn
Rep. Marsha Judkins
Rep. Rosemary T. Lesser

Rep. R. Neil Walter

Members Absent:

Rep. Trevor Lee
Rep. Jordan D. Teuscher

Staff Present:

Nathan W. Brady, Policy Analyst
Linda Service, Committee Secretary

Note: A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

Chair Kohler called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

MOTION: Rep. Cobb moved to approve the minutes of the February 14, 2024 and February 20, 2024 meetings. The motion passed with a vote of 7 - 0 - 4.

Yeas - 7

Rep. G. Bennion
Rep. J. Cobb
Rep. P. Cutler
Rep. J. Dunnigan
Rep. M. Gwynn
Rep. M. Judkins
Rep. M. Kohler

Nays - 0

Absent - 4

Rep. T. Lee
Rep. R. Lesser
Rep. J. Teuscher
Rep. R. Walter

1. H.B. 460 Government Employee Conscience Protection Amendments (*Petersen, M.*)

Rep. Petersen introduced the bill assisted by Robin Wilson, Law Professor, University of Illinois.

Mary Ann Christensen, Executive Director, Legislative Watch, spoke in support of the bill.

Gayle Ruzicka, Utah Eagle Forum, spoke in support of the bill.

Stan Rasmussen, Sutherland Institute, spoke in support of the bill.

Jared Tingey, Legal Director, Utah League of Cities and Towns, spoke to the bill.

MOTION: Rep. Walter moved to hold H.B. 460. The motion passed with a vote of 8 - 1 - 2.

Yeas - 8

Rep. G. Bennion
Rep. J. Cobb
Rep. P. Cutler
Rep. J. Dunnigan
Rep. M. Gwynn
Rep. M. Judkins
Rep. R. Lesser
Rep. R. Walter

Nays - 1

Rep. M. Kohler

Absent - 2

Rep. T. Lee
Rep. J. Teuscher

2. H.B. 501 Medicaid Modifications (*Dunnigan, J.*)

Rep. Dunnigan introduced the bill assisted by Jennifer Strohecker, State Medicaid Director, and distributed a handout "HB 501, Local county-delivered Medicaid-financed Mental/Substance Use Disorder Services funding issue 2024."

[HB 501](#)

Rebecca Brown, Executive Deputy Director, Department of Corrections, spoke in support of the bill.

Stephanie Burdick spoke in support of the bill.

Elizabeth Klc, spoke in support of the bill.

Christina Zidow, Chief Operating Officer, Odyssey House of Utah, spoke in support of the bill.

Katherine Rhodes, Utah Association of Counties, spoke in support of the bill

Travis Tucker, Sheriff, Duchesne County, representing Utah Sheriffs Association, spoke in support of the bill.

Matt Dumont, Chief Deputy, Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office, Corrections Bureau, spoke in support of the bill,

MOTION: Rep. Bennion moved to replace H.B. 501 with 1st Substitute H.B. 501. The motion passed with a vote of 9 - 0 - 2.

Yeas - 9

Rep. G. Bennion
Rep. J. Cobb
Rep. P. Cutler
Rep. J. Dunnigan
Rep. M. Gwynn
Rep. M. Judkins
Rep. M. Kohler
Rep. R. Lesser
Rep. R. Walter

Nays - 0

Absent - 2

Rep. T. Lee
Rep. J. Teuscher

MOTION: Rep. Judkins moved to pass 1st Substitute H.B. 501 out favorably. The motion passed with a vote of 9 - 0 - 2.

Yeas - 9

Rep. G. Bennion
Rep. J. Cobb
Rep. P. Cutler
Rep. J. Dunnigan
Rep. M. Gwynn
Rep. M. Judkins
Rep. M. Kohler
Rep. R. Lesser
Rep. R. Walter

Nays - 0

Absent - 2

Rep. T. Lee
Rep. J. Teuscher

MOTION: Rep. Lesser moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 9 - 0 - 2.

Yeas - 9

Rep. G. Bennion
Rep. J. Cobb
Rep. P. Cutler
Rep. J. Dunnigan
Rep. M. Gwynn
Rep. M. Judkins
Rep. M. Kohler
Rep. R. Lesser
Rep. R. Walter

Nays - 0

Absent - 2

Rep. T. Lee
Rep. J. Teuscher

Chair Kohler adjourned the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

NOTE: 01st Substitute S.B. 0183 was not discussed in the meeting.