

Joint Commission on Health Care
General Assembly Building – Senate Room A
May 26, 2010 – 10:00 a.m.

Minutes

Attendance

Senator George L. Barker	Delegate Robert H. Brink
Senator Harry B. Blevins	Delegate David L. Bulova
Senator R. Edward Houck	Delegate Benjamin L. Cline
Senator L. Louise Lucas	Delegate Roslyn R. Dance
Senator Ralph S. Northam	Delegate T. Scott Garrett
Senator Linda T. Puller	Delegate A.T. Howell, Jr.
Senator Patricia S. Ticer	Delegate David A. Nutter (conference)
Senator William C. Wampler, Jr. (conference)	Delegate John M. O'Bannon, III
	Delegate Christopher K. Peace
	Secretary William A. Hazel, Jr.

The meeting was called to order by JCHC Chairman, Senator Houck who introduced and welcomed the newly appointed members: Delegate T. Scott Garrett, Delegate Christopher K. Peace and William A. Hazel, Jr., Secretary of Health and Human Resources.

Election of Officers

Nominations for chair and vice-chair of JCHC were accepted. Delegate Peace's nomination of Delegate Cline for chair was seconded and Delegate Cline was elected by a unanimous vote. Senator Barker nominated Senator Puller as vice-chair, the motion was seconded, and Senator Puller was elected by a unanimous vote.

As the new chair, Delegate Cline remarked that he would like for JCHC to acquire additional background information on the federal health reform law and the impact the federal law is expected to have on Virginia from a fiscal and policy perspective.

Kim Snead, Executive Director presented a meeting schedule for JCHC and its two Subcommittees, indicating that she would work with the Commission and Subcommittee chairs to set specific meeting dates. The following work plan meeting topics were presented for Commission members' consideration.

August Meeting

- Discussion on Planning and Activities Undertaken in Response to Federal Health Reform
- Staff Report: Indigent Health Care Provided by Private, Specialty and Not-for-Profit Hospitals
HJR 27 – Delegate Purkey

October Meeting

- Overview of Governmental Restructuring Related to Health and Human Resources Secretariat and Update on Federal Health Reform
- Staff Reports on:

- State Funding for Cancer Research
SJR 292 (2009) Senator Martin
- Chronic Health Care Homes
HJR 82 - Delegate Hope
- Provision of Care for Life-Threatening Conditions
SJR 339 (2009) Senator Barker
- Catastrophic Health Insurance Coverage
HJR 99 - Delegate Stolle

November Meeting

Review of policy options and legislation for the 2011 General Assembly.

Secretary Hazel gave a brief explanation of the following five major areas being reviewed related to federal health reform:

1. Mandates
2. Miscellaneous including opportunities for funding and grants
3. Insurance reforms
4. Health Insurance Exchange
5. Medicaid

Overview of Federal Health Reform

Michele Chesser presented an overview of major components of the federal health reform legislation.

Legislation

HR 3590 (P.L. 111-148): Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act

- Enacted March 23, 2010

HR 4872 (P.L. 111-152): Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act

- Enacted March 30, 2010

The combined Acts are referred to as the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA)

Major Components of PPACA

- Creation of new health insurance marketplace/programs
- Health insurance market reforms
- Coverage mandates and incentives
- Changes to Medicare
- Changes to Medicaid and CHIP
- Improvements to quality of care and system performance

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Healthy Living/Health Services Subcommittee

General Assembly Building – Senate Room A

May 26, 2010 – 11:00 a.m.

Attendance

Senator George L. Barker	Delegate Robert H. Brink
Senator Harry B. Blevins	Delegate David L. Bulova
Senator R. Edward Houck	Delegate Benjamin L. Cline
Senator L. Louise Lucas	Delegate Roslyn R. Dance
Senator Ralph S. Northam	Delegate T. Scott Garrett
Senator Linda T. Puller	Delegate A.T. Howell, Jr.
Senator Patricia S. Ticer	Delegate David A. Nutter (conference)
Senator William C. Wampler, Jr. (conference)	Delegate John M. O'Bannon, III
	Delegate Christopher K. Peace
	Secretary William A. Hazel, Jr.

Senator Linda T. Puller called the HL/HS Subcommittee to order.

Stephen Bowman stated that the Subcommittee will meet in September, October, and November.

Mr. Bowman presented the following meeting topics for the Subcommittee's consideration and approval:

- Staff Reports on:
 - Feasibility of Replicating JMU's Caregivers Community Network
 - Effectiveness of Virginia's HIV Prevention and Treatment Programs
 - Issues Surrounding Physicians Prescribing Long-Term Antibiotic Therapy for Lyme Disease
HB 512 – Delegate Rust by letter on behalf of HWI
 - Issues Surrounding Changing Eligibility Levels in FAMIS Program
SB 266 – Senator Whipple by letter on behalf of HWI
- Update by Virginia Department of Health
- Update by Virginia Stroke Systems Task Force
- 2009 Report: Safe Nurse Staffing in Hospitals
- Invitation to newly-appointed agency heads from selected health care agencies

During the meeting in November, the Subcommittee will review policy options and make recommendations for action by the Joint Commission.

Comments

Delegate O'Bannon asked that in looking at chronic disease management homes to check out the models that already exist.

Delegate Dance requested that staff include an update on childhood and adult obesity.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Behavioral Health Care Subcommittee

General Assembly Building – Senate Room A

May 26, 2010 – 11:40 a.m.

Attendance

Senator George L. Barker	Delegate Robert H. Brink
Senator Harry B. Blevins	Delegate David L. Bulova
Senator R. Edward Houck	Delegate Benjamin L. Cline
Senator L. Louise Lucas	Delegate Roslyn R. Dance
Senator Ralph S. Northam	Delegate T. Scott Garrett
Senator Linda T. Puller	Delegate A.T. Howell, Jr.
Senator Patricia S. Ticer	Delegate David A. Nutter (conference)
Senator William C. Wampler, Jr. (conference)	Delegate John M. O'Bannon, III
	Delegate Christopher K. Peace
	Secretary William A. Hazel, Jr.

Senator L. Louise Lucas called the BHC Subcommittee meeting to order.

Kim Snead presented the following work plan proposal for the Subcommittee's consideration and approval:

August Meeting

- Invitation for Commissioner Stewart to discuss issues related to behavioral health including his priorities as the newly-appointed Commissioner.
- Report on mental health services and higher education - including results of a survey of Virginia's public/private colleges and universities.
- Findings related to the final report on the activities of the Commission on Mental Health Law Reform.

September Meeting

- Report on the current status and potential use of telepsychiatry by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS).
- Discussion of provisions of federal health reform on behavioral health care.
- JCHC staff-led discussion to reexamine issue of allowing individuals with a misdemeanor conviction of assault and battery against a family member to be considered for employment in BHC facilities which serve adults.

November Meeting

- Review of policy options and potential recommendations for action by the Joint Commission.

Comments

Senator Houck requested that Division of Legislative Services make a presentation on the statutory construction of the *Code* sections dealing with barrier crimes for BHC facilities. In addition, Senator Houck requested that the Subcommittee have an update on mental health illness and services in Virginia's correctional facilities.

Delegate Dance would like an update on Autism services and Senator Barker mentioned the new staff addressing autism services within DBHDS.

Delegates Cline and Howell would like for the Subcommittee to address the challenges inmates have in receiving psychotropic medication in jails. Delegate Cline noted the problem of inmates entering jail on medications that the jails may not provide for and the fact that there are different medication policies among jails. Delegate Howell noted that he receives numerous calls about the availability of medication.

Delegate Peace said he has an interest on hearing both sides of the issues concerning the preferred drug list and psychotropic drugs addressed in budget item 297.

Secretary Hazel said he would encourage the Subcommittee to have a discussion on health care as it pertains to prison re-entry and the need for additional beds and funding for the sexually violent predator program. Secretary Hazel asked Commissioner Stewart to make a few comments. Commissioner Stewart announced that Dr. Olivia Garland had been appointed Deputy Commissioner of DBHDS. Dr. Garland has extensive experience having held high-level management positions in the Department of Corrections, Central State Hospital, DMHMRSAS, and the private sector at First Health. Commissioner Stewart has reorganized the agency to bring the facility and community sides of the various services together. In the past, community and facility operations were separate and did not allow for coordination of services. Two specialists, in developmental disabilities and in autism spectrum disorders (ASDs), have been hired and DBHDS will report back to JLARC on the recommendations made in the JLARC report on ASD.

Delegate O'Bannon requested an update on how well the tracking system for mental health beds is working. Senator Houck remarked that he is very concerned over the adolescent population since the closing of the adolescent unit at Marion Correctional Center. He would like to be kept up to speed on tracking services for this population.

Secretary Hazel asked that the Subcommittee address how Virginia is handling issues that surround substance abuse. Delegate Nutter stated he would like to keep this front and center and noted high mortality rates related to abuse of prescription drugs. Delegate Nutter suggested that the Subcommittee address these issues more as Senator Hanger's Commission on Substance Abuse Prevention gears down and Delegate O'Bannon suggested hearing from that Commission.

Senator Wampler suggested deferring to the Secretary's judgment as he brings a fresh set of eyes. He asked that the Commission reserve some time for the Secretary to give an update to the full Commission.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Prepared by: Sylvia A. Reid
Publication/Operations Manager
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