



West Virginia House of Delegates

Standing Committee on Health and Human Resources

Minutes for April 07, 2025, 3:30 PM

Pursuant to the call of the Chair, the Standing Committee on Health and Human Resources met on April 07, 2025, 3:30 PM, in the House East Wing Committee Room 215-E.

Members present: Delegates Amos, Anders, Burkhammer, Chiarelli, Clark, Dean, Drennan, Hall, Hamilton, Heckert, Hite, Jeffries, Lewis, Masters, Mazzocchi, Miller, Petitto, Pushkin, Pinson, Rohrbach, Smith, Stephens, Vance, Willis, Worrell.

Members absent: None.

A silent roll call being taken, the presence of a quorum was established.

On motion of Delegate Hite, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Chair Worrell recognized counsel to explain Com Sub for SB 904 - Clarifying requirements for Commissioner of Bureau for Public Health. Chair Worrell called for questions of counsel. No questions. Chair Worrell called for amendments. Delegate Lewis moved to amend and a competing committee amendment was offer, both amendments were explained and discussed. Delegate Lewis amendment was rejected, and the committee amendment was adopted. SB904 H HHR AM #1

Sargent 3380

The Committee on Health and Human Resources moved to amend the bill on page 1, line 4, by inserting the following after the stricken language:

“The secretary shall appoint the commissioner by July 1, 2025. The commissioner shall be a person holding a master’s degree in public health administration or an equivalent master’s degree in a related field as determined by the secretary unless designated the state health officer.”

Vice Chair Hite moved for unanimous consent for hearing and markup and discussion of SB 939 - Relating to testing for substance use disorder. Motion carried. Chair Worrell recognized counsel to explain SB 939. Counsel answered questions of counsel. Chair Worrell recognized and Dr. Steven Eschenauer, previously been sworn in. There were no questions of the committee. Chair Worrell called for amendments. Counsel explains the committee amendment. Amendment adopted. SB939 H HHR AM #1

CR 3338

The Committee on Health and Human Resources moved to amend the bill on page 1, section 4a, line 1, by striking subsection (a) in its entirety and inserting a new subsection (a) to read as follows:

“(a) Upon patient admission to a medication-assisted treatment program, the provider shall conduct a clinically appropriate drug test, which may include direct observation, if the provider determines the patient is at high risk.”

And,

On page 1, line 3, by striking, “After this time and continuing for six weeks,” and inserting in lieu thereof, “At minimum,”

And,

On page 1, line 3, by striking the word, “quantitative” and inserting in lieu thereof the word, “qualitative”

And,

On page 1, lines 9 and 10 by striking, “the patient must be willing to produce a direct observation qualitative or quantitative test upon the provider request.” and inserting in lieu thereof, “the patient shall comply with a physician ordered direct observation qualitative or quantitative test.”

Vice Chair Hite Moved SB 939 be reported to the floor with the recommendation it do pass as mended. Motion carried.

Vice Chair Hite moved for unanimous consent for hearing and markup and discussion of SB 252 - Requiring coverage of home blood pressure monitoring devices for certain Medicaid recipients (2nd REF FIN). Motion carried. Chair Worrell recognized counsel to explain SB 252. There being no questions of counsel and no amendments, Vice Chair Hite moved SB 252 be reported to the floor with the recommendation it do pass, but first be referred to the committee on Finance. Motion carried.

Chair Worrell recognized counsel to explain SB 526 - Creating Pharmacist Prescribing Authority Act. Chair Worrell recognized and swore in Dr. Kevin Yingling, MD, Rph. Dr. Yingling answered several questions of the committee. Chair Worrell recognized and swore in Krista Capehart, WVU Clinical Professor, WV Board of Pharmacy. Ms. Capehart answered numerous questions of the committee. Chair Worrell called for a recess, until 15 minutes after floor session. The committee was called beck to order at 6:05 PM to continue testimony on SB 256. Chair Worrell recognized and swore in Mark Spangler, Executive Director, WV Board of Medicine. There being no questions of the committee, Chair Worrell advanced SB 256 to markup.

Chair Worrell recognized counsel to explain SB 944 - Creating WV Child First Advisory Committee (2nd REF FIN). Counsel explained SB 944. Chair Worrell called for question of counsel. Counsel answered questions of the committee. Chair Worrell advanced SB 944 to markup.

Chair Worrell recognized counsel to explain SB 299 - Modifying WV regulations on pubertal modulation, hormonal therapy, and gender reassignment (2nd REF JUD). Chair Worrell recognized and swore in each of the following speakers: 1. Dr. Kate Waldeck, MD, FAAP; 2. Dr. Patrick L. Kerr Licensed Psychologist; 3. Rusty Williams, Advocacy Director, ACLU of West Virginia; 4. Halle Stewart, representing Social Workers; 5. Emily Womeldorff, Director of Policy and Campaigns Planned Parenthood South Atlantic; 6. Samuel Green, WV Trans Coalition; 7. Sarah Hutson, Planned Parenthood, Community Organizer; 8. Ash Lazarus Orr, Morgantown Pride. Chair Worrell advanced SB 299 to markup.

On Motion of Delegate Hite the committee adjourned.

Evan Worrell

Committee Chair

Martha White

Administrator/Clerk