

# MINUTES

## HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON CORRECTIONS

**DATE: February 22, 2017**

The subcommittee meeting was called to order by Representative Pagel at 10:30 a.m.

Roll was taken: Present – Representatives Pagel, Yaroch, Afendoulis, VanSingel, Santana, and Durhal III

Absent – None

I. Approval of the Minutes from the Previous Subcommittee Meeting

A motion was moved by Representative Afendoulis to approve the minutes from the subcommittee meeting held on February 15, 2017. The motion prevailed, a majority of the members voting in the affirmative.

II. Overview of Prisoner Health Care

Kyle Kaminski, Legislative Liaison, and Lia Gulick, Health Care Administrator, Bureau of Health Care Services, appeared before the subcommittee to give an overview of prisoner health care. They provided the subcommittee with a copy of a PowerPoint presentation.

Mr. Kaminski discussed all of the following: the department's legal obligation to provide health care that meets community standards; the 1,464 Bureau of Health Care Services employees which include physicians, physicians assistants, nurses, mental health care providers, dental care providers, and optometry providers; the consolidated contract the state has with Corizon for physical and mental health care, as well as pharmaceutical services; the screening, appraising, and assessing of all prisoners' physical and mental health care needs at intake; the prison hospital operating in Jackson that has 152 beds; the 114 infirmary beds located in four correctional facilities; that 22% of prisoners are being treated for mental health issues, 9% of those having serious mental illnesses and 13% of those having less serious mental health needs; the 1,240 beds in various facilities dedicated to prisoners with mental health needs; the roughly 8,000 additional prisoners receiving mental health treatment on an outpatient basis; the aging prison population; the number of older prisoners has increased by 7.5% since 2013; the health care challenges involved in caring for medically frail or frail elderly prisoners; that roughly \$325 million was expended in FY 2016-17 on prisoner health care, including substance abuse testing and treatment services; about 7% of the prison population has Hepatitis C; there are 2,230 untreated prisoners on the registry to be treated for Hepatitis C; the department spent roughly \$30 million to treat Hepatitis C between FY 2013-14 and FY 2015-16; the department will spend another \$15 million in FY 2016-17, unless they receive the additional \$14 million they requested, which would put the total spent on treatment of Hepatitis C at \$29 million for FY 2016-17; the department is continuously working to be more efficient, realizing how the management of prisoner health care impacts the health and economic development of communities, public safety, and spending of taxpayers' dollars; and the initiatives taken by the Bureau of Health Care Services.

Discussion ensued (questions and answers).

III. Adjourn

There being no further business before the subcommittee, Representative Pagel adjourned the subcommittee meeting at 11:35 a.m.