



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

REP. CHRISTINE MORSE

CHAIR

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, March 13, 2024

10:30 AM

Room 519, House Office Building

The House Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services was called to order by Chair Morse.

The Chair requested attendance be called:

Present: Reps. Morse, Martus, Hood, Brabec, O'Neal, Puri, Farhat, Price, Skaggs, Snyder, Green, Bollin, Meerman, Kuhn, Steele.

Absent: None.

Excused: None.

Representative Snyder joined the Subcommittee remotely.

Representative Price moved to adopt the meeting minutes from March 6, 2024. There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

Meghan Hodge-Groen, Senior Deputy Director, Behavioral and Physical Health and Aging Services Administration, Scott Wamsley, Director, Bureau of Aging, Community Living, and Supports, and Amy Epkey, Senior Deputy Director, Financial Operations Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, gave a presentation on aging and long-term care services and appropriations. The Department provided printed copies of their presentation to the Subcommittee. Ms. Hodge-Groen, Mr. Wamsley, and Ms. Epkey received and answered questions for the the Subcommittee. The department agreed to provide the following information to the Subcommittee:

1. Long-Term Care Ombudsman ratios, services data, and projected need for additional ombudsmen.

Richie Farran, Vice President of Government Services, Health Care Association of Michigan, gave a presentation to the Subcommittee on aging and long-term care services and industry needs. Mr. Farran provided printed handouts of his presentation to the Subcommittee. Mr. Farran received and answered questions for the Subcommittee.

Bob Brown, Executive Director, Region VII, and Don Salida, Director, Region IIIA, Area

Agencies on Aging Association of Michigan, gave a presentation to the Subcommittee on long-term care services and industry needs. Mr. Brown and Mr. Salida provided printed copies of the Area Agencies on Aging Association presentation and an additional handout. Mr. Brown and Mr. Salida received and answered questions for the Subcommittee.

Salli Pung, Michigan Long-Term Care Ombudsman, and Alison Hirschel, Director and Managing Attorney, Michigan Elder Justice Coalition, gave a presentation to the Subcommittee on care and concerns of the older adults receiving long-term care services. Ms. Pung provided a printed copy of the Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman presentation to the Subcommittee. Ms. Pung and Ms. Hirschel received and answered questions for the Subcommittee. Ms. Pung and Ms. Hirschel agreed to provide the following information to the Subcommittee:

2. List of top-10 ranked states in long-term ombudsman services and supporting data.

Teri Langley, Disability Network of Michigan, gave a presentation to the Subcommittee on direct care worker wages and staffing concerns. Ms. Langley received and answered questions for the Subcommittee.

The following individuals provided written testimony only to the Subcommittee:

1. Chris Tarpoff, senior services consumer and AARP volunteer
2. Paula D. Cunningham, State Director, Lisa Dedden Cooper, Manager of Advocacy, and Melissa Seifert, Associate State Director/Government Affairs, American Association of Retired Persons of Michigan

There being no further business before the Subcommittee, Chair Morse adjourned the meeting at 11:52 AM.

Representative Christine Morse, Chair

Kent Dell
Committee Clerk

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