

**MINUTES OF THE
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES INTERIM COMMITTEE**
Wednesday, May 18, 2016 – 1:15 p.m. – Room 445 State Capitol

Members Present:

Sen. Evan J. Vickers, Senate Chair
Rep. Kay L. McIff, House Chair
Sen. Allen M. Christensen
Sen. Mark B. Madsen
Sen. Brian E. Shiozawa
Rep. Stewart Barlow
Rep. Melvin R. Brown
Rep. Rebecca Chavez-Houck
Rep. Craig Hall
Rep. Sandra Hollins
Rep. Michael S. Kennedy
Rep. Paul Ray
Rep. Edward H. Redd

Rep. Robert M. Spendlove
Rep. Norman K Thurston
Rep. Raymond P. Ward

Members Absent:

Sen. Luz Escamilla

Staff Present:

Mr. Mark D. Andrews, Policy Analyst
Ms. Cathy J. Dupont, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Lee A. Killian, Associate General Counsel
Mr. Michael E. Curtis, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Lori Rammell, Legislative Assistant

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

1. Committee Business

Chair Vickers called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

MOTION: Sen. Christensen moved to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2015, meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Madsen, Rep. Redd, and Rep. Spendlove were absent for the vote.

2. Interim Study Overview

Chair Vickers briefed the committee on a potential outline for interim study, based on committee input and direction from the Legislative Management Committee.

3. Opioid Misuse – Overview

Chair Vickers provided background for the issue of opioid misuse.

Mr. Andrews distributed "Opioid Policy Options" and "Prescription Drug Misuse: Selected Policy Responses by the Utah Legislature, 2007 – 2016." He briefed the committee on legislative action taken since 2007 to address the issue and options for further action.

4. Opioid Prescribing Guidelines

Dr. Eric Cannon, Assistant Vice President, Pharmacy Benefits, SelectHealth, distributed "SelectHealth Pharmacy Narcotic Management" and summarized four programs within SelectHealth that address prescription drug abuse.

Mr. Andrews distributed "Prescribing Practice in Utah: 2002 – 2015," published by the Utah Department of Health in 2009, and "CDC Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain," published by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in 2016. Dr. Robert Rolfs, Deputy Director, Utah

Department of Health, explained the two guidelines and compared them with one another. He also distributed "Guidelines for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain" and presented "Opioid Guidelines 2008 – 2016."

Ms. Anna Fondario, epidemiologist, Utah Department of Health, responded to questions from the committee about the department updating its guidelines in response to the guideline published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Ms. Michelle McOmber, Chief Executive Officer, Utah Medical Association, presented "Utah Medical Association Presentation to HHS – Opioids" and distributed a chart (untitled) comparing 16 states on growth in opioid utilization, number of prescription drug overdose deaths, and whether or not the state mandates use of a controlled substance database.

Mr. Mark Steinagel, Director, Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing, said the division is rebuilding its controlled substance database and hopes the rebuild will resolve speed issues. He also responded to concerns that the database is not always available to prescribers and dispensers.

Ms. Fondario presented "Prescribing Practice in Utah," highlighting the results of a Utah Department of Health analysis of the controlled substance database.

Mr. Kelly Atkinson, Executive Director, Utah Health Insurance Association, discussed the epidemic of opioid overdose and offered suggestions for addressing the problem.

Mr. Chet Loftis, Executive Director, Public Employees Health Program, and Mr. Travis Tolley, Clinical Management Director, Public Employees Health Program, presented "Insurance Perspective on Opioid Guidelines" and discussed actions taken by the program to address opioid misuse.

5. Regulation of Prescribing Practices – A Look at Other States

Chair Vickers directed committee staff to prepare a summary of actions taken by other states, including Maine, Massachusetts, and Washington, to regulate opioid prescribing.

6. Other Items/Adjourn

MOTION: Rep. Thurston moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Christensen, Sen. Madsen, and Sen. Shiozawa absent for the vote.

Chair Vickers adjourned the meeting at 3:48 p.m.