



Meeting Minutes - Joint Commission on Health Care

July 8, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.

Senate Room A– General Assembly Building

Members Present

Delegate Mark Downey
Delegate Patrick Hope
Delegate Cia Price
Delegate Atoosa Reaser (virtual)
Delegate Kathy Tran
Delegate Howard Wachsmann
Delegate Rodney Willett (virtual)

Senator R. Creigh Deeds
Senator Barbara Favola
Senator Christopher Head
Senator Mamie Locke
Senator L. Louise Lucas
Senator Todd Pillion
Senator David Suetterlein

Members Absent

Senator Stella Pekarsky
Delegate Cliff Hayes
Delegate M. Keith Hodges
Delegate Wren Williams

Staff Present

Sarah Stanton
Jen Piver - Renna
Agnes Dymora
Khadeejat Lawal
Mayesha Alam

Call to order and welcoming comments – Senator Favola

Roll Call- Agnes Dymora

Michael Tweedy, Associate Director for Budget Operations, Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee, provided an update on funding for health and human resources in the current budget. He discussed funding for agencies including the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS), the Department of Developmental and Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS), the Department of Social Services (DSS), and the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) and others. Lastly, he answered members' questions.

Harrison Hayes, Executive Director of the Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority, briefed members on the status of the nursing workforce in Virginia. He discussed the gaps between employment and demand and the incentive programs to attract candidates. Lastly, he spoke about the status of the applications for current year incentives. He concluded by answering members' questions.

Beth Bortz, President and CEO of the Virginia Center for Health Innovation, provided a briefing on the work of the Taskforce for Primary Care. She discussed the primary care investment report and provided data on spending and utilization of primary care services in Virginia. She concluded by discussing the reasons why primary care should be utilized by more individuals and answered members' questions.

Following a statement regarding the plan for the closure of the Hiram Davis Medical Center from Health and Human Resources Secretary Marvin Figueroa, JCHC members discussed the proposal in detail before deciding to postpone a vote and continue to work towards a resolution at a future meeting.

Meeting adjourned.

Delegate Reaser participated virtually due to a medical appointment. Delegate Willett participated virtually due to a medical matter.