



Meeting Minutes - Joint Commission on Health Care

September 18, 2024 – 10:00 a.m.

House Subcommittee Room B – General Assembly Building

Members Present

Delegate Rodney Willett

Delegate N. Baxter Ennis

Delegate Cliff Hayes

Delegate M. Keith Hodges

Delegate Robert Orrock

Delegate Atoosa Reaser (Virtual)

Delegate Cia Price

Delegate Mark Sickles

Delegate Howard Wachsmann

Senator Barbara Favola

Senator Ghazala Hashmi

Senator Christopher Head (virtual)

Senator Mamie Locke

Senator L. Louise Lucas

Senator Stella Pekarsky

Senator David Suetterlein

Members Absent

Delegate Patrick Hope

Senator Todd Pillion

Staff Present

Sarah Stanton

Jen Piver-Renna

Estella Obi-Tabot

Kyu Kang

Agnes Dymora

Call to order and welcoming comments – Delegate Willett

Roll Call - Agnes Dymora

Executive Director Sarah Stanton gave an overview of the meeting agenda and introduced the first guest presenters, Beth Bortz, President and CEO, and Lauryn Walker, Chief Strategy Officer, from the Virginia Center for Health Innovation.

Ms. Bortz gave an overview of the agency, including the mission and composition of board members. She listed the tasks that the agency is accomplishing including primary care pilots. Ms. Walker spoke about task force reports. She discussed figures for healthcare spending, and the decline in primary care usage. She concluded the presentation by discussing some recommendations that will require legislative action. Lastly, they answered members' questions.

Deputy Director Jen Piver-Renna, provided a presentation on the *Performance of Health Care Workforce Programs* in Virginia. She listed the specific programs that were the main focus of the study and briefed on the fiscal appropriations and details, such as eligibility and criteria, for

those programs. She then spoke about monitoring and reporting implementation of the programs. Lastly, she discussed the issues that the programs face to improve effectiveness such as data collection. Jen also answered members' questions at the end of her presentation.

Commissioner Nelson Smith from the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services briefed members on the proposed closure of the Hiram Davis Medical Center (HDMC). He provided a brief history of the center and an overview of the building's deficiencies. Commissioner Smith presented information about the costs of renovating vs. building a new facility. He described the patient population currently residing at HDMC and provided examples for how to meet these needs in the short and long term when patients are relocated. He also discussed employment options for staff who would be displaced by the closure. Lastly, Commissioner Smith described the process that would be followed to make a final decision on the future of HDMC, and the statutory timeline that must be observed. He answered members' questions at the end of his presentation.

Sarah Stanton reminded members about the process of study selection and mentioned the two topics that were pending from earlier this year.

JCHC members proposed some potential topics that they would like to further explore.

Meeting adjourned.

Senator Head and Delegate Reaser joined virtually due to being out of town, and unable to travel, respectively.