

**GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES
AND SPECIAL EDUCATION**

**Legislative Committee
Meeting Minutes**

LOCATION

**Governor's Council Conference Room
3601 C Street
Anchorage, Alaska
Teleconference**

Meeting Date

**January 19, 2016
11:00 a.m.**

Attendees:

Art Delaune - Chair
Dean Gates
Mallory Hamilton
Alex Gimarc
Anthony Cravalho

Staff:

Patrick Reinhart
Ric Nelson

CALL TO ORDER – 11:02 p.m.
ROLL CALL

WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR

Art Delaune welcomed the committee members to the meeting.

Announcements and Good News

No announcements or good news was reported.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mallory Hamilton **MOVED** to approve the meeting agenda, **SECONDED** by Alex Gimarc. Hearing no opposition, the motion **PASSED**.

APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Alex Gimarc **MOVED** to approve the meeting minutes from December 15, 2015, **SECONDED** by Anthony Cravalho. Hearing no opposition, the motion **PASSED**.

CORRESPONDENCE

Patrick Reinhart reported that the Council sent a letter of support for the reauthorization of the Alaska Commission on Aging (ACoA). At this point, the Council doesn't plan to be involved any further than the letter of support unless the executive director of ACoA asks for further support.

REPORTS

Report from the Chair

Art Delaune reported that there were a lot of pre-filed bills last week, one of which was from Representative Hawker regarding medical assistance expansion and audit. Art noted that this bill may not go far, but should be put on the watch list. Art reported that SB 74, which is the original Medicaid reform bill, has been revised to address expansion and should also be put on the watch list.

BUSINESS

The Legislative Committee discussed their position papers and updates on bills that will be considered by the legislature in the upcoming session.

SB 104/HB 188 – ABLÉ Accounts

Committee members reviewed the position paper that had been revised based on their input at the last meeting. Alex Gimarc **MOVED** to approve the position paper on the ABLÉ Accounts, **SECONDED** by Anthony Cravalho. Hearing no opposition, the motion **PASSED**.

HB 76 – Removal of “Gifted” from the Council’s Enabling Statute

Committee members reviewed the position paper regarding HB 76. Mallory Hamilton **MOVED** to approve the HB 76 position paper, **SECONDED** by Alex Gimarc. Hearing no opposition, the motion **PASSED**.

HB 77 – Disability Training and Education Bill

Alex Gimarc **MOVED** to approve the HB 77 position paper, **SECONDED** by Mallory Hamilton. During discussion, committee members recommended attaching recent newspaper articles on incidences of people with disabilities’ negative interaction with law enforcement and a link to the KTVA story on the incident in Kodiak involving an autistic man. Hearing no opposition, the motion **PASSED**.

Developmental Disability Registry and Review

Patrick Reinhart reported that the position paper on the DD/RR has not been written yet. Patrick will forward it to the committee members for review as soon as it is completed.

Repeal of AS 23.10.070 – Subminimum Wage to Alaskans with Disabilities

After Patrick Reinhart explained the effects of a repeal of AS 23.10.070, the committee members recommended putting this aside until more information on the impact of the legislation is available.

SB 49/HB 154 – Civil Legal Services Fund

Patrick Reinhart reported that in a conversation with Nicole Nelson, the director of Alaska Legal Services, he understood that this fund would be also be available to other eligible non-profit organizations that are providing legal services, for example, Disability Law Center. Patrick noted that there is not a Council position paper because Alaska Legal Services is taking the lead on this bill, and he recommended encouraging Disability Law Center to become involved in supporting the bills since they could benefit from the funding. Patrick stated that he will continue to follow up with Nicole Nelson, and if further support is warranted, he will alert the Legislative Committee members with the understanding that not all committee members are in support of the bill. SB 49/HB 154 will be put on the watch list.

SB 91 – Omnibus Crime Bill

Patrick Reinhart stated that SB 91 is on the watch list, and the Trust is the lead on it. No further action is required at this point.

HB 99 – Voluntary Termination of Life

Patrick Reinhart stated that this bill is on the watch list and no further action is required at this point.

HB 102 – Residential Psychiatric Education Funding

After a brief discussion regarding HB 102 and the impact on the disability population, the bill was put on the watch list. Patrick Reinhart stated that just having the bill introduced has already had a positive impact on services that the Anchorage School District has offered to NorthStar Behavioral Health. This bill will continue to be on the watch list.

HB 27/HB 28 – PCA Services

Patrick Reinhart reported that this bill will continue to be on the watch list.

OTHER INFORMATION FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Patrick Reinhart reported that the legislature will be looking at revenue sources to balance the state budget. There are organizations that are submitting resolutions, and the Legislative Committee members discussed whether or not the Council should draft a formal resolution. After the discussion, the committee members recommended, in essence, not taking a specific position on any source of revenue, but to encourage the legislators to look at all sources and make sure that there is plenty of opportunity for public testimony.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

- **February 2 – 4, 2016**
Governor's Council meeting
Juneau
- **February 17 – 19, 2016**
AADD/Key Campaign
Juneau

TIME AND DATE OF NEXT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The next Legislative Committee meeting will be on February 23, 2016 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Mallory Hamilton **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting, **SECONDED** by Alex Gimarc. The motion **PASSED**, and the meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.