

Joint Medicaid Oversight Committee

Minutes of Meeting
2021 Interim
September 24, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Rick Edmonds, chairman of the Joint Medicaid Oversight Committee, called the meeting to order at 9:38 a.m. in Room 5, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Rick Edmonds, chairman
Representative Tony Bacala
Representative Dustin Miller
Representative Roy Daryl Adams for Representative Patricia "Pat" Moore
Representative Thomas A. Pressly
Representative William "Bill" Wheat, Jr.
Senator Regina Ashford Barrow
Senator Kirk Talbot for Senator Heather Miley Cloud
Senator Beth Mizell for Senator J. Cameron Henry, Jr., vice chairman
Senator Bob Hensgens
Senator Patrick McMath

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Senator Jimmy Harris

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Meah Johnson, attorney
Stephanie Little, attorney
Drew Murray, legislative analyst
Kristy Neubrandner, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Faye Talbot, House sergeant at arms
Danny Leming, House assistant chief sergeant at arms
Fate Mitchell, Senate sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION

Discussion of the functions of the LDH Health Standards Section as they relate to Louisiana Medicaid, particularly with respect to licensure of and sanctions against nursing homes

This item was not discussed.

Review of R.S. 40:2009.25 relative to emergency preparedness plans for nursing homes and discussion of actions by LDH to implement and enforce this law

Chairman Edmonds provided background information regarding the seven Louisiana nursing homes that evacuated to a warehouse in Independence, Louisiana, due to Hurricane Ida. The seven nursing homes in question were River Palms Nursing and Rehab (Orleans Parish), South Lafourche Nursing and Rehab (Lafourche Parish), Maison Orleans Healthcare Center (Orleans Parish), Park Place Healthcare Nursing Home (Jefferson Parish), West Jefferson Health Care Center (Jefferson Parish), Maison DeVille Nursing Home (Terrebonne Parish), and Maison DeVille Nursing Home of Harvey (Jefferson Parish).

Steve Russo, Louisiana Department of Health (LDH), 628 North 4th Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9509, stated that LDH revoked the licenses and terminated the Medicare provider agreements of the aforementioned nursing homes. Mr. Russo discussed the ongoing investigation into the evacuations of these facilities during Hurricane Ida as well as the ongoing appeals process. Mr. Russo answered questions from the committee about evacuation policies LDH has in place for nursing homes; he also noted he would not be free to answer all questions the committee may have because of a lawsuit that had been filed against LDH.

Andrew Perilloux, LDH, 628 North 4th Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9509, spoke for information only.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 for information only.

Update from LDH on hospital payment reform

Ruth Johnson, LDH, 628 North 4th Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9509, spoke for information only and provided a handout, Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Ben Mori, LDH, 1301 5th Avenue, Suite 3800, Seattle, WA 98101, (206) 613-8204, spoke for information only.

Jason Clarkson, LDH, 10 West Market Street, Suite 1600, Indianapolis, IN 46204, (317) 524-3591, spoke for information only.

Andrew Perilloux, LDH, 628 North 4th Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9509, spoke for information only.

Any other business that may come before the committee

There was no other business.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Rick Edmonds
Joint Medicaid Oversight Committee

Date adopted: