Minutes Joint Legislative Program Evaluation Oversight Committee Meeting May 9, 2016

Members Present

Senator Stan Bingham Senator Valerie Foushee Senator Fletcher Hartsell, Chair Senator Ralph Hise Senator Tom McInnis Senator Louis Pate Senator Joyce Waddell Representative Becky Carney Representative Ted Davis Representative Nelson Dollar Representative Craig Horn, Chair Representative Pat Hurley Representative Jason Saine Representative Rena Turner

Advisory Members

Senator Rick Gunn Senator Joyce Krawiec

Call to Order

Representative Craig Horn, Chair, called the meeting to order.

Representative Horn recognized John Turcotte who introduced new Program Evaluator, Emily McCartha.

Senator Hise moved to approve the April 11, 2016 Minutes. Motion carried.

Presentations and Comments

Chairman Horn recognized State Auditor Beth Wood to present a report and to provide a status report.

State Auditor Wood presented a 2014 Performance Audit Report – **Department of Health and Human Services Division of Medical Assistance-Medicaid Provider Eligibility.** This report disclosed deficiencies in internal control considered reportable under Generally Accepted Government Audit Standards.

Representative Horn recognized Dave Richard, Deputy Secretary for Medical Assistance for DHHS response. Mr. Richard reported that DHHS has taken action on findings and approved the recommendations.

Representative Hurley asked if there were penalties in the contracts for provider enrollment. Mr. Richard said that he would follow-up and provide the information requested.

State Auditor Wood updated the committee on the status of an audit required by S.L. 2017-7, Section 12, 11.5(a)-(c) on accuracy in determining Medicaid eligibility.

Representative Horn recognized Senator Hartsell who presented information on how legislators are reimbursed for travel expenses provided by the National Conference of State Legislatures. He also presented a bill draft for introduction that would increase legislator subsistence and travel allowances to match 2015 IRS rates as recommended by the Joint Legislative Program Evaluation Oversight Committee. Senator Hartsell moved to approve the draft legislation for introduction. Motion carried.

Representative Horn recognized Jennifer Hillman from the Legislative Analysis Division to explain the Medicaid determination bill, which implements PED recommendations to improve timeliness of county eligibility determinations. Senator Hise moved to have this draft bill introduced for legislation. He also said that he would sponsor the bill. Motion carried.

Representative Horn recognized Representative Ted Davis to explain the draft proposal from the JLPEOC Subcommittee on Tiers to change the Department of Commerce's economic index and create a temporary commission including representation of most distressed areas within counties to develop new system to replace Tiers and to establish strategies for improving local economic development. Representative Davis moved to have the draft bill introduced for legislation. Motion carried.

Adjournment

With no further business, the committee adjourned to meet again June 13, 2016.

Senate Chair, Senator Fletcher Hartsell

House Chair, Representative Craig Horn