

Working Group to Study Payments by Insurance Companies into the Insurance Fund

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, January 23, 2025

9:00 AM in Room 2B of the LOB and Zoom and YouTube Live

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 AM by Chairman, Rep. Wood K. 029.

The following working group members were present:

Members: Rep. Wood K. 029 Sen. Osten C. 19, Susan Halpin, Eric George, Rep. Walker T. 093, Jane Callahan, Jim Carson, Nuccio T. 053, Rep. Pavalock-D'Amato C. 077, Chris Davis

Absent were: Sen. Cabrera J. S17, Hwang T. 28

Rep. Wood K. 029 made her opening remarks and thanked the committee for their efforts. Wood summarized the addition of a mission statement, membership, table of contents and the background of the Insurance Fund. Wood stated a reference to an index was missing, for established data at the end of the report and opened the floor for discussion.

Jane Callanan echoed Wood's statement that a reference to an index would be beneficial.

Eric George commented that the report should be a complete document without the need of outside source material.

Rep. Wood K. 029 shared that the Office of Legislative Research (OLR) report specifically that was referenced should be included within the document.

Jane Callanan commented that there should be an addition of definitions for the assessments (General Assessment, Health and Welfare Fee, and Public Health fees).

Susan Halpin followed up Callanan's comments and stated that adding a glossary of terms would be beneficial.

Chris Davis commented that the implementation of a legislative process for approval should be a standalone recommendation not within the public transparency recommendation.

Susan Halpin shared that adding a recommendation to explicitly state maintaining the assessments and funding structure for the Department of Insurance.

Jane Callanan concurred Halpin's suggestion and noted that a chart breaking down the number of insured lives in Connecticut should be an addition.

Chris Davis questioned if more detail was required for the recommendation to transfer of the Insurance Fund back to the General Fund and defining how the shift will occur.

Sen. Osten C. 19 followed up that budget changes are coming but adding a dollar amount would create a point of reference.

Nuccio T. 053 followed up the comments of Sen. Osten C. 19 that adding dollar amounts would be beneficial.

Rep. Wood K. 029 reiterated that there will be more detailed numbers within the Findings and Recommendations budget of Insurance Funds.

Sen. Osten C. 19 shared concern and suggested that the responsibility of the Office of the Behavioral Health Advocate be transferred from the Insurance Fund to the General Fund.

Rep. Wood K. 029 stated that she will continue to work on the comments, details of the budget and the new recommendations. Wood tasked Susan Halpin with creating the glossary of terms and Jane Callanan with defining the assessments. With plans of having a complete draft by Monday, January 27th 2025.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 AM.

Allie Kyff
Committee Clerk

Nicole Chambrello
Assistant Clerk