

MINUTES

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Wednesday, November 13, 2024

9:00 AM

Capitol Extension, Room E1.028

Pursuant to a notice posted in accordance with Senate Rule 11.10 and 11.18, a public hearing of the Senate Committee on Health & Human Services was held on Wednesday, November 13, 2024, in the Capitol Extension, Room E1.028, at Austin, Texas.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Senator Lois Kolkhorst, Chair
Senator Charles Perry, Vice Chair
Senator César Blanco
Senator Bob Hall
Senator Morgan LaMantia
Senator Borris Miles

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Senator Kelly Hancock
Senator Bryan Hughes
Senator Kevin Sparks

The chair called the meeting to order at 9:22 AM. There being a quorum present at 9:35 AM, the following business was transacted:

The following members arrived after the roll was called: Senator Blanco and Senator Miles.

The chair laid out the following interim Committee charge:

- **Examining the links between Nutrition and Chronic Disease:** Examine the role that food supply plays in chronic disease. Identify ways that Texas can support a healthier food supply, including ways to better inform consumers and incentivize food producers. Make recommendations for reforming the state's health-related research efforts to improve public health through enhanced nutritional awareness, revised pharmaceutical development, and non-pharmacological interventions.

The following individuals provided invited and public testimony (see attached witness list).

At 12:40 PM Senator Perry assumed the chair.

At 1:00 PM Senator Kolkhorst resumed the chair.

The chair laid out the following interim Committee charge:

- **Protecting Vulnerable Texans in Emergencies:** Examine commercial residential settings for the elderly and individuals with intellectual disabilities, including assisted living facilities, boarding homes, group homes, and independent living communities. Identify emergency preparedness and response protocols required during severe weather for these populations. Make recommendations, if necessary, for the establishment and enforcement of emergency protocols to ensure vulnerable populations are protected.

The following individuals provided invited and public testimony (see attached witness list).

There being no further business, at 4:02 PM Senator Blanco moved that the Committee stand recessed subject to the call of the chair. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Lois Kolkhorst, Chair

Sally Buck, Clerk