

ARIZONA STATE LEGISLATURE

JOINT LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SAFETY

Minutes of the Meeting

April 25, 2024

9:00 A.M., SHR 1

Members of the public may access a livestream of the meeting here:

<https://www.azleg.gov/videoplayer/?clientID=6361162879&eventID=2024041067>

Members Present:

Senator David C. Farnsworth, Co-Chair

Senator Catherine Miranda

Senator Justine Wadsack

Representative Steve Montenegro, Co-Chair

Representative Gail Griffin

Representative Sarah Liguori

Staff:

Michael Madden, Senate Research Analyst

Montse Torres, House Research Assistant Analyst

Co-Chair Farnsworth called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. and attendance was taken.

INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS

Senator Farnsworth asked that the Members introduce themselves.

OVERVIEW OF COMMITTEE OBJECTIVES, METHODS AND WORKING GROUPS

Senator Farnsworth gave an overview of the Committee's objectives, meeting requirements according to statute and working group suggestions.

Senator Farnsworth distributed and explained a document entitled "DCS Out-Of-Home Foster Care" (Attachment A).

The Committee offered comments.

Michael Madden, Senate Research Analyst, demonstrated and explained how to access the Department of Child Safety website and answered a question posed by Representative Liguori.

Chis Gustafson, Chief Legislative Liaison, Department of Child Safety, answered questions posed by Representative Liguori.

DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SAFETY PRESENTATIONS

Agency Budget

David Lujan, Cabinet Executive Officer, Department of Child Safety (DCS), distributed and explained a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Department of Child Safety, Joint Oversight Committee on Child Welfare" (Attachment B).

The Committee offered comments.

Mr. Lujan answered questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee offered comments.

RECESS

At 10:37 a.m. Co-Chair Farnsworth recessed the meeting to the sound of the gavel.

RECONVENE

At 10:43 a.m. Co-Chair Farnsworth called the meeting to order.

Neglect and Intervention

Chis Gustafson, Chief Legislative Liaison, Department of Child Safety, continued with the PowerPoint presentation (Attachment B) and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Katherine Guffey, Executive Consultant, Department of Child Safety, continued with the PowerPoint presentation (Attachment B) and answered questions posed by the Committee.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Lori Ford, Founder, AZ DCS Oversight Group, offered comments regarding the Department of Child Safety.

DISCUSSION

The Committee offered comments.

Attached is a form noting the individual who submitted a speaker slip on the agenda item (Attachment C).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:31 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracey Gardner
Committee Secretary

(Audio recordings and attachments are on file in the Secretary of the Senate's Office/Resource Center, Room 115. Audio archives are available at <http://www.azleg.gov>)