



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ON FAMILIES, CHILDREN, AND SENIORS

REP. RODNEY WAKEMAN

CHAIR

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, April 26, 2022

12:00 p.m.

Room 327, House Office Building

The House Committee on Families, Children, and Seniors was called to order by the Chair.

The Chair requested attendance be called. The Clerk called the attendance and announced a quorum was present.

Present: Reps. Wakeman, Meerman, Rendon, Roth, Tisdell, Pohutsky, Camilleri, Brenda Carter, Aiyash.

Absent: None.

Excused: None.

Representative Rendon moved to adopt the meeting minutes from March 22, 2022. There being no objections, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

The Chair laid HB 5801, HB 5974, HB 5975, HB 5976, HB 5977, HB 5978, HB 5979, HB 5980, HB 5981 and HR 262 before the committee:

HB 5801 (Rep. Kahle)

A bill to create the foster care improvement commission; to prescribe its powers and duties; and to prescribe the powers and duties of certain state departments and agencies.

HB 5974 (Rep. Whiteford)

A bill to amend 1939 PA 288, entitled "Probate code of 1939," by amending section 13a of chapter XIA (MCL 712A.13a), as amended by 2016 PA 191.

HB 5975 (Rep. Pohutsky)

A bill to amend 1939 PA 288, entitled "Probate code of 1939," by amending section 17d of chapter XIA (MCL 712A.17d), as amended by 2012 PA 115.

- HB 5976 (Rep. Tyrone Carter) A bill to amend 1994 PA 203, entitled "Foster care and adoption services act," (MCL 722.951 to 722.960) by adding section 3a.
- HB 5977 (Rep. Green) A bill to amend 1973 PA 116, entitled "An act to provide for the protection of children through the licensing and regulation of child care organizations; to provide for the establishment of standards of care for child care organizations; to prescribe powers and duties of certain departments of this state and adoption facilitators; to provide penalties; and to repeal acts and parts of acts," (MCL 722.111 to 722.128) by adding section 6a.
- HB 5978 (Rep. Wakeman) A bill to amend 1994 PA 203, entitled "Foster care and adoption services act," (MCL 722.951 to 722.960) by adding section 3b.
- HB 5979 (Rep. O'Malley) A bill to amend 1967 PA 281, entitled "Income tax act of 1967," (MCL 206.1 to 206.847) by adding section 678.
- HB 5980 (Rep. Young) A bill to amend 1973 PA 116, entitled "An act to provide for the protection of children through the licensing and regulation of child care organizations; to provide for the establishment of standards of care for child care organizations; to prescribe powers and duties of certain departments of this state and adoption facilitators; to provide penalties; and to repeal acts and parts of acts," by amending section 8 (MCL 722.118), as amended by 2017 PA 258.
- HB 5981 (Rep. Anthony) A bill to amend 2006 PA 110, entitled "Michigan zoning enabling act," by amending sections 102 and 206 (MCL 125.3102 and 125.3206), section 102 as amended by 2008 PA 12 and section 206 as amended by 2018 PA 513.
- HR 262 (Rep. Brenda Carter) A resolution to urge the United States Congress to expand the federal Family First Prevention Services Act by allowing flexibility in the use of Title IV-E funds to help children remain safely in their homes.

Representative Bronna Kahle, member of the House Adoption and Foster Care Task Force, speaking on the behalf of the Chair, Representative Mary Whiteford, to convey the process in which the task force went through to derive at the language for this bill package.

Lee Belding, Legislative Assistant to Representative Mary Whiteford, explained HB 5974. Questions followed.

Representative Laurie Pohutsky, the bill sponsor, explained HB 5975.

Representative Bronna Kahle, the bill sponsor, explained HB 5801.

Sherry Sofia, Legislative Assistant for Representative Phil Green, explained HB 5977.

Representative Jack O'Malley, the bill sponsor, explained HB 5979. Questions followed.

Representative Stephanie A. Young, the bill sponsor, explained HB 5980.

Representative Brenda Carter, the resolution sponsor, explained HR 262.

At 12:32 p.m., the Chair laid the committee at ease.

At 12:32 p.m., Majority-Vice Chair Meerman called the committee back to order.

The Chair, the bill sponsor, explained HB 5978. Questions followed.

At 12:37 p.m., Majority-Vice Chair Meerman laid the committee at ease.

At 12:38 p.m., the Chair called the committee back to order.

Brian Calley testified in support of HB 5801, HB 5974, HB 5975, HB 5976, HB 5977, HB 5978, HB 5979, HB 5980, HB 5981 and HR 262.

Jenny Brown, Founder and Chief Executive Officer for Dutton Farm, testified in support of HB 5801, HB 5974, HB 5975, HB 5976, HB 5977, HB 5978, HB 5979, HB 5980, HB 5981 and HR 262.

Tina Sentell, Child Welfare Director for the New Light Child and Family Institute, testified and submitted written testimony in support of HB 5801, HB 5974, HB 5975, HB 5976, HB 5977, HB 5978, HB 5979, HB 5980, HB 5981 and HR 262.

Shannon Urbon, Executive Director for The New Foster Care, testified in support of HB 5801, HB 5974, HB 5975, HB 5976, HB 5977, HB 5978, HB 5979, HB 5980, HB 5981 and HR 262.

Chris Yatooma, Co-Founder and President of the Board for The New Foster Care and representing the OCG Companies and Citizens State Bank, testified and submitted written testimony in support of HB 5801, HB 5974, HB 5975, HB 5976, HB 5977, HB 5978, HB 5979, HB 5980, HB 5981 and HR 262.

The following individuals submitted a card in support of HB 5801, HB 5974, HB 5975, HB 5976, HB 5977, HB 5978, HB 5979, HB 5980, HB 5981 and HR 262, but did not wish to speak:

Ron Khoury, representing the Chaldean Foundation;

Karie Ward, representing the Fostering Success Michigan;

Jean M. Stenzel, Chief Executive Officer and President for Forever Families, Incorporated;

Maria Lessnau, Executive Director for Christ Child House;
Deborah Pettway, Director of Child Welfare for the Catholic Charities of Shiawassee and Genesee Counties;
Sherry Thomas-Cloud, Chief Executive Office for Family and Children's Services, Incorporated;
Janet Reynolds Snyder, Executive Director for the Michigan Federation for Children and Families;
Sonia Noorman, Chief Executive Officer for the West Michigan Partnership for Children;
Cristina Peixoto, President and Chief Executive Officer for Spauling for Children;
Sam Beals, Chief Executive Officer for the Samaritas;
Angela Aufdemberge, President and Chief Executive Officer for Vista Maria;
Mark T. Robinson, Executive Director for Livingston County Catholic Charities;
Kevin Roach, Chief Executive Officer for the Methodist Children's Home Society Family of Services;
Gina Aranki, Executive Director for the Child and Family Services of Northwestern Michigan;
Mary Muliett, Chief Executive Officer for D.A. Blodgett-St. Johns;
Brad Keller, Vice-President of Regional Operations for Bethany Christian Services;
DeLois Leapheart, President and Chief Executive Officer for Adoption Option, Incorporated;
Martin Manna, President of the Chaldean American Chamber of Commerce, representing the Chaldean community;
Rachel Lindemann, representing the Guy Thompson Parent Advisory Council.

Maura Corrigan, former Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice and former Director of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, submitted a card in support of HB 5801, but did not wish to speak.

Cami Penddell, General Counsel for the Michigan Supreme Court, representing the State Court Administrative Office, submitted a card in support of HB 5801 and HB 5975 , but did not wish to speak.

Joe Haveman, Director of Government Relations for Hope Network, submitted a card in support of HB 5974, HB 5975, HB 5976, HB 5977, HB 5978, HB 5979, HB 5980, and HB 5981, but did not wish to speak.

Daniel Jarvis, Research and Policy Director for Michigan Family Forum, submitted a card in support of HB 5801, HB 5975, HB 5976, HB 5977, HB 5978, HB 5979, HB 5980, and HB 5981, but did not wish to speak.

Alex Rossman, External Affairs Director for the Michigan League for Public Policy, submitted a card in support of HB 5801, HB 5974, HB 5975, HB 5976, HB 5977, HB 5978, HB 5979, HB 5980, and HB 5981, but did not wish to speak.

There being no further business before the committee; Representative Tisdell moved that the committee adjourn. The Chair adjourned the meeting at 1:04 p.m.

Representative Rodney Wakeman, Chair

Joy Brewer
Committee Clerk
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