



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
REP. JIMMIE WILSON
CHAIR

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, March 6, 2024

10:30 AM

Room 307, House Office Building

The House Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Judiciary was called to order by the Chair, Representative Wilson.

The Chair requested attendance be called:

Present: Reps. Wilson, Weiss, Brixie, Mentzer, Morgan, Cavitt, and Schuette.

Absent: Rep. Lightner.

Excused: Rep. Lightner.

Representative Morgan moved to excuse Representative Lightner from the meeting. There being no objection the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

Representative Brixie moved to adopt the minutes from the meeting held on February 14, 2024. There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

Jonathan Sacks, Director, and Marilena David, Deputy Director, Michigan State Appellate Defender Office (SADO), appeared before the subcommittee. Mr. Sacks gave an overview of FY 2025 budget priorities: MAACS youth defense manager, conversion of contract employees to civil service employees, implementation of the new collective bargaining agreement, and implementation of appellate defender workload standards set by the National Center for State Courts. Ms. David discussed the Criminal Defense Resource Center and the education, training, publications, and other resources it provides to the criminal defense bar, advocates, and impacted individuals. Ms. David also discussed the impact of Project Reentry which was launched in 2016. Mr. Sacks talked about the impact of making these investments, including savings to the state, increased morale and retention of employees, reduction in workloads, quality of representation, and successful reentry of clients into the community. Mr. Sacks also discussed work of the Juvenile Lifer Unit within SADO. Discussion ensued. Questions and answers followed.

There being no further business before the subcommittee, Representative Wilson adjourned the meeting at 11:10 AM.

Representative Jimmie Wilson, Chair

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