

1999 SENATE HUMAN SERVICES

SCR 4003

1999 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SCR 4003

Senate Human Services Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date JANUARY 20,1999

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1		X	1,370
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Carol Klodejchak</i>			

Minutes:

The hearing was opened on SCR 4003.

This is the resolution urging the Department of Human Services to implement recommendations to improve its administrative structure and enhance its budget presentation methods and to report to the Legislative Council and directing the Legislative Council to monitor the implementation of the recommendations.

There was no testimony on this resolution.

Public Services Administration was hired to do a study of our Department of Human Services with the idea of resolving some minor problems. This resolution came out of that study and is asking that the Dept implement the recommendations and report to the Council and direct the Council to monitor the implementations of the recommendations.

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Senate Human Services Committee

Bill/Resolution Number SCR4003

Hearing Date JANUARY 20, 1999

YVONNE SMITH, from the Dept. of Human Services, stated that the recommendations that were put forward in and are recommended we can handle; in fact we are well on our way to working on most of them. We have no problem with that.

The hearing was closed on SCR4003.

SENATOR LEE stated that the Dept is doing a good job in its own strategic planning.

SENATOR LEE moved a DO PASS. SENATOR FISCHER seconded it.

Discussion was there were no costs involved in this resolution. SENATOR FISHER stated that the study was funded through the Legislative Council budget. SENATOR THANE stated that this department vastly improved the job of presenting its budget and commented that it has over a billion dollar budget and that makes a very complicated budget.

Roll call vote carried 6-0. SENATOR FISHER will be the carrier.

Date: 1/20/99
Roll Call Vote #: 1

1999 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SJR 4003

Senate HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE Committee

Subcommittee on _____
or
 Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken Do Pass

Motion Made By Sen Lee Seconded By Sen Fischer

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Senator Thane	✓				
Senator Kilzer	✓				
Senator Fischer	✓				
Senator Lee	✓				
Senator DeMers	✓				
Senator Mutzenberger	✓				

Total 6 (yes) 0 (no)

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Sen Fischer

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
January 20, 1999 1:53 p.m.

Module No: SR-12-0914
Carrier: Fischer
Insert LC: . Title: .

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SCR 4003: Human Services Committee (Sen. Thane, Chairman) recommends **DO PASS**
(6 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SCR 4003 was placed on the
Eleventh order on the calendar.

1999 HOUSE HUMAN SERVICES

SCR 4003

1999 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SCR 4003

House Human Services Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date February 24, 1999

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1	X		21.1 - 33.2
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Susanne Lindteigen</i>			

Minutes:

JIM SMITH, Legislative Council, testified I was a staff person for the interim committee on human services which recommended this resolution. The committee looked at the administrative structure of the department of human services. The Legislative Council report is summarized on pages 79-84. The Virginia based consultant developed recommendations that will allow the Department of Human Services to be effective, responsive, and efficient for years to come. Some of the recommendations made by consultant that would improve the department are to add several divisions within the department, i.e., budget planning and evaluation division; and to have an ombudsman troubleshooter position, and information resource management unit. The resolution encourages the department to make some of these changes during the coming interim and report to the committee of the Legislative Council on their progress. That committee will report back to the next legislature.

Rep. CAROL NIEMEIER asked is a business plan being done at the present time, as you mentioned on page 1? JIM SMITH stated the committee learned midsummer that the department is going through a strategic business planning process. It is summarized in the report.

KEVIN IVERSON, Department of Human Services, testified I do not have any prepared testimony but I am here to answer any questions in regards to the resolution as to what the department is doing currently in addressing the suggestions or recommendations in the study. We went through the strategic planning process this summer. The outline is prepared. There have been some changes made in the organizational structure of the department that would assist the executive director in managing the span of control. We recently hired a director of economic assistance who will oversee the medical eligibility functions, food stamps, and TANF or TEEM eligibility functions. The individual will come on board April 1, 1999.

Rep. CAROL NIEMEIER asked on the suggestion for reorganization, how will that impact the budget? KEVIN IVERSON said the changes either have been considered in the budget request or they will have no impact. If there is an unforeseen situation, we will have to appear before the Emergency Commission.

Rep. CHET POLLERT stated on pages two and three and part eight, it creates an assistant director position and a troubleshooter position and further asked has some other FTE's been eliminated if there is no additional cost? KEVIN IVERSON stated the economic assistance director position was created with an FTE position that was currently available. As for the positions mentioned in part eight, those have not been addressed yet. We have not requested additional FTE's, so we would maybe shift duties. We have a consolidation within the information management division which takes care of our technological requirements.

Rep. TODD PORTER asked is the department looking at setting up an appeals process similar to what HIT was set up for Medicare? KEVIN IVERSON stated I cannot answer that. I will have the Medicaid Director respond.

Rep. CLARA SUE PRICE asked in the strategic planning process, have you eliminated or highlighted any of the 18, e.g. yes, we are going to do these or no, we are not going to do these? KEVIN IVERSON stated there are several that we have accomplished already. As far as any that we have highlighted or do not plan to do, or cannot do, that hasn't been brought to my attention. I don't know what the plans of the executive director are in that respect. I know she has seriously considered all of them. Rep. CLARA SUE PRICE asked was it the intention of the committee that the recommendations may all be considered but not necessarily all would be implemented? KEVIN IVERSON stated some of the consideration would be, is it feasible both financially and logistically to bring about those types of changes. In order to bring it about, that would require additional FTE's and we wouldn't have those in our budget. That would be a barrier to completing that particular function or task.

OPPOSITION

None.

Hearing closed.

1999 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SCR4003

House Human Services Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date March 22, 1999

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1	x		20.0-29.7
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Wayne B. Johnson</i>			

Minutes:

Opened COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

There was some discussion relating to the background of this resolution. It was noted there was a study last session but there was considerable disappointment in the results of that study. There was a feeling that not all of the affected groups had been contacted. This resolution is the result of frustration in dealing with the Department of Human Services.

Rep. ROXANNE JENSEN moved DO PASS AND FORWARD TO THE CONSENT CALENDAR, seconded by Rep. CAROL NIEMEIER.

The motion PASSED on a voice vote: 13 YES, 0 NO, 2 ABSENT.

CARRIER: Rep. ROXANNE JENSEN.

VOICE Date: 3-22-99
 Roll Call Vote #: ~~XXXX~~
VOICE

1999 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
 BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SCR4003

House Human Services Committee

Subcommittee on _____
 or
 Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken Do Pass and forward to Consent Calendar

Motion Made By Jensen Seconded By Alain Niemeier

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Clara Sue Price - Chairwoman			Bruce A. Eckre		
Robin Weisz - Vice Chairman			Ralph Metcalf		
William R. Devlin			Carol A. Niemeier		
Pat Galvin			Wanda Rose		
Dale L. Henegar			Sally M. Sandvig		
Roxanne Jensen					
Amy N. Kliniske					
Chet Pollert					
Todd Porter					
Blair Thoreson					

Total Yes 13 No 0 VOICE
 Absent ~~2~~ 2

Floor Assignment Jensen

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
March 23, 1999 2:30 p.m.

Module No: HR-52-5417
Carrier: Jensen
Insert LC: . Title: .

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SCR 4003: Human Services Committee (Rep. Price, Chairman) recommends **DO PASS**
(13 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SCR 4003 was placed on the
Tenth order on the calendar.