

*Chairman Wm. Weston J. Newton*

*First Vice-Chair:  
Laurie Slade Funderburk*

## **Legislative Oversight Committee**

*Nathan Ballentine  
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Kirkman Finlay III  
Joseph H. Jefferson Jr.  
Walton J. McLeod  
Joshua Putnam  
Samuel Rivers Jr.  
Tommy M. Stringer  
Bill Taylor*



*William K. (Bill) Bowers  
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Phyllis J. Henderson  
Mia S. McLeod  
Ralph W. Norman  
Robert L. Ridgeway III  
James E. Smith, Jr.  
Edward R. Tallon Sr.  
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**South Carolina House of Representatives**

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**Healthcare Subcommittee Meeting  
November 23, 2015  
10:00 a.m.  
Room 110 - Blatt Building**

### **ARCHIVED VIDEO AVAILABLE**

- I. You may access archived video of this meeting by visiting the South Carolina General Assembly's website (<http://www.scstatehouse.gov>) and click on "Citizens' Interests," then click on "House Legislative Oversight Committee Postings and Reports." Lastly, click on "Video Archives" for a listing of archived videos for the Legislative Oversight Committee.

### **MINUTES**

- I. House Rule 4.5 requires the standing committees of the House to prepare and make available for public inspection, in compliance with Section 30-4-90, the minutes of full committee meetings. House Rule 4.5 further provides that such minutes need not be verbatim accounts of such meetings. It is the practice of the House Legislative Oversight Committee to provide minutes, which are not verbatim accounts of such meetings, for its Subcommittee meetings.
- II. The Healthcare Subcommittee (Subcommittee) meeting was called to order by Subcommittee Chair Nathan Ballentine on Monday, November 23, 2015, in Room 110 of the Blatt Building, Columbia, South Carolina. The following Subcommittee Members were present: Subcommittee Chair Ballentine, Representative Walton J. McLeod, and Representative Bill Taylor.
- III. Representative Taylor moved to approve the Subcommittee minutes from its meeting on Monday, November 9, 2015. A roll call vote was held, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

<b>Rep. Taylor’s Motion to approve the Subcommittee Minutes from Nov. 9, 2015</b>	<b>Yea</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Not Voting</b>
Chair Ballentine	✓		
Rep. Mia McLeod			Not Present
Rep. Walton McLeod	✓		
Rep. Taylor	✓		

IV. This was the fourth meeting with the Department of Social Services (DSS) held to provide the agency and the public an update on the status of the oversight study of the agency, and allow the Subcommittee to continue its discussion with the DSS, focusing on the Staff Study and the recommendations from the DSS that were discussed at the Subcommittee’s previous meeting. He then swore under oath the individuals who were present to speak on behalf of DSS: Susan Alford (Director), Barbara Derrick (Deputy Director of Administration), Brad Leake (Director of Accountability and Research), Katy Morgan (Director of Child Support Services), and Joan Meacham (Chief of Staff).

V. Subcommittee Chair Ballentine explained that the Subcommittee would solicit testimony and explanation regarding the agency’s recommendations relating to changes in law. If no Subcommittee members objected to a recommendation, the Subcommittee would revisit all of the recommendations without objections later in the meeting in order to vote on them all simultaneously.

**Item 3.** Katy Morgan provided an explanation of the DSS’s recommendation to the Subcommittee. There were no objections to the recommendation from members of the Subcommittee.

**Item 9(a).** Katy Morgan provided an explanation of the DSS’s recommendation to the Subcommittee. There were no objections to the recommendation from members of the Subcommittee.

**Item 9(b).** Katy Morgan provided an explanation of the DSS’s recommendation to the Subcommittee. Representative Walton McLeod objected to the recommendation.

**Item 9(c).** Katy Morgan provided an explanation of the DSS’s recommendation to the Subcommittee. There were no objections to the recommendation from members of the Subcommittee.

**Item 9(d).** Katy Morgan provided an explanation of the DSS’s recommendation to the Subcommittee. There were no objections to the recommendation from members of the Subcommittee.

**Item 7.** Susan Alford provided an explanation of the DSS’s recommendation to the Subcommittee. Subcommittee Chair Ballentine objected to the recommendation.

VI. Subcommittee Chair Ballentine moved that the Subcommittee adopt the agency’s recommendations to which no objection had been voiced. Those recommendations were: Item 3, Item 9(a), Item 9(c), Item 9(d). A roll call vote was held, and the motion was passed unanimously.

<b>Chair Ballentine's Motion that the Subcommittee Adopt the Recommendations to Which No Objection Had Been Voiced</b>	<b>Yea</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Not Voting</b>
Chair Nathan Ballentine	✓		
Rep. Mia McLeod			Not Present
Rep. Walton McLeod	✓		
Rep. Bill Taylor	✓		

VII. The Subcommittee then began to further discuss or make motions related to the agency's recommendations to which an objection had been voiced by a Subcommittee member earlier in the meeting.

*Item 7.* Subcommittee Chair moved that the Subcommittee obtain additional information about the recommendation related to the recommendation. A roll call vote was held, and the motion was passed unanimously.

<b>Chair Ballentine's Motion to Obtain Additional Information about Item 7</b>	<b>Yea</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Not Voting</b>
Chair Nathan Ballentine	✓		
Rep. Mia McLeod			Not Present
Rep. Walton McLeod	✓		
Rep. Bill Taylor	✓		

*Item 9(b).* Katy Morgan provided answers to questions from members of the Subcommittee. Representative Walton McLeod removed his objection to the recommendation. Representative Walton McLeod moved to adopt the recommendation. A roll call vote was held, and the motion was passed unanimously.

<b>Rep. Walton McLeod's Motion that the Subcommittee Adopt the Recommendation</b>	<b>Yea</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Not Voting</b>
Chair Nathan Ballentine	✓		
Rep. Mia McLeod			Not Present
Rep. Walton McLeod	✓		
Rep. Bill Taylor	✓		

VIII. Subcommittee Chair Ballentine provided all present information related to the opportunity for members of the public to speak about the DSS at a future meeting. Chair Ballentine moved that that meeting be scheduled for January as quickly as possible on the tentative date of January 12, 2016. A roll call vote was held, and the motion was passed unanimously.

<b>Chair Ballentine's Motion to Schedule the Next Subcommittee Meeting on the Tentative Date of January 12, 2016, or as Quickly as Possible</b>	<b>Yea</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Not Voting</b>
Chair Nathan Ballentine	✓		
Rep. Mia McLeod			Not Present
Rep. Walton McLeod	✓		
Rep. Bill Taylor	✓		

Subcommittee Chair Ballentine moved that the Staff Study of the DSS be amended so as to include a mistakenly omitted reference to Child Protective Services. Susan Alford testified that the DSS took no objection to such an amendment. A roll call vote was held, and the motion was passed unanimously.

<b>Chair Ballentine’s Motion to Allow Staff to Amend the Staff Study of the DSS so as to Insert a Mistakenly Omitted Reference to Child Protective Services</b>	<b>Yea</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Not Voting</b>
Chair Nathan Ballentine	✓		
Rep. Mia McLeod			Not Present
Rep. Walton McLeod	✓		
Rep. Bill Taylor	✓		

IX. The members of the Subcommittee asked the representatives from the DSS questions about topics such as the workload of caseworkers, performance metrics that the DSS uses, the agency’s response to the DSS employee survey, the rate of employment turnover at the agency and steps the DSS is taking to counter the high turnover rate.

X. Subcommittee Chair Ballentine summarized to Susan Alford that the Subcommittee was expecting more information related to the Child Fatality Review Committee, the methodology of the caseload assignments for the DSS caseworkers, the results of the University of South Carolina employee satisfaction survey, the new strategic plan for the DSS, and the negative assessment results in Spartanburg. Chair Ballentine also asked Susan Alford to guide the DSS is converting some of the potential negative impacts and alert levels into numerical figures for the purpose of increasing efficiency of measurement and accountability.

XI. Subcommittee Chair Ballentine moved that the Subcommittee include references to the findings of the Senate DSS Study Committee in its report. A roll call vote was held, and the motion was passed unanimously.

<b>Chair Ballentine’s Motion to Refer to the Senate DSS Study Committee’s Findings in the Subcommittee’s Report</b>	<b>Yea</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Not Voting</b>
Chair Nathan Ballentine	✓		
Rep. Mia McLeod			Not Present
Rep. Walton McLeod	✓		
Rep. Bill Taylor	✓		

XII. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

South Carolina House of Representatives



Legislative Oversight Committee

**HEALTHCARE SUBCOMMITTEE**

*Chairman Nathan Ballentine*

*The Honorable Mia S. McLeod*

*The Honorable Walton J. McLeod*

*The Honorable Bill Taylor*

*Monday, November 23, 2015*

*10:00 a.m.*

*Room 110 -Blatt Building*

*Pursuant to Committee Rule 6.8, S.C. ETV shall be allowed access for internet streaming whenever technologically feasible.*

**AGENDA**

- I. Approval of Minutes from the November 9, 2015 Subcommittee Meeting**
- II. Further discussion of the Study of the Department of Social Services, including but not limited to: the staff study of the agency and the agency's response**
- III. Adjournment**