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Healthcare Subcommittee

June 27, 2016

Archived Video Available

- I. Pursuant to House Legislative Oversight Committee Rule 6.8, South Carolina ETV was allowed access for streaming the meeting. You may access archived video of this meeting by visiting the South Carolina General Assembly's website (<http://www.scstatehouse.gov>) and clicking on *Committee Postings and Reports*, then under *House Standing Committees* click on *Legislative Oversight*. Then, click on *Video Archives* for a listing of archived videos for the Committee.

Attendance

- I. The Healthcare Subcommittee meeting was called to order by Chairman Nathan Ballentine on Monday, June 27, 2016, in Room 110 of the Blatt Building. Representatives Walton J. McLeod and Bill Taylor were also present. Representative Mia S. McLeod arrived later.
- II. Representative Taylor offered an invocation.

Minutes

- I. House Rule 4.5 requires standing committees to prepare and make available to the public the minutes of committee meetings, but the minutes do not

have to be verbatim accounts of meetings. It is the practice of the Legislative Oversight Committee to provide minutes for its subcommittee meetings.

- II. Representative Taylor moved that the Subcommittee approve the minutes from its meeting on April 27, 2016. A roll call vote was held, and the motion was passed.

Rep. Taylor’s motion that the Subcommittee approve the April 27, 2016, minutes:	Yea	Nay	Not Voting
Representative Nathan Ballentine	✓		
Representative Mia S. McLeod			✓
Representative Walton McLeod	✓		
Representative Bill Taylor	✓		

- III. Representative Taylor moved that the Subcommittee approve the minutes from its meeting on May 26, 2016. A roll call vote was held, and the motion was passed.

Rep. Taylor’s motion that the Subcommittee approve the May 26, 2016, minutes:	Yea	Nay	Not Voting
Representative Nathan Ballentine			✓
Representative Mia S. McLeod			✓
Representative Walton McLeod	✓		
Representative Bill Taylor	✓		

Public Input on the Commission for the Blind

- I. Chairman Ballentine explained that the purpose of the meeting was to provide the Subcommittee with the opportunity to receive testimony about the Commission for the Blind from the public. He said that the Subcommittee would hear testimony from all of those present who had signed up to speak. The name and country or organization of each person is given below, and the italicized notation represents the approximate start time for each person’s testimony on the archived video of the meeting. A brief summary of each person’s testimony is given below his name.

Paige McGraw, School for the Deaf and Blind 5:09

Dr. McGraw is the agency head of the School for the Deaf and Blind, and shared information about the ways in which the School partners with the Commission in South Carolina. Dr. McGraw answered questions asked by Chairman Ballentine and Representative Taylor.

Scott Falcone, School for the Deaf and Blind 17:21

Mr. Falcone added to Dr. McGraw's testimony about the working relationship between the School for the Deaf and Blind and the Commission for the Blind.

Charles Kierce, Verizon 21:12

Mr. Kierce testified about his positive experiences with fellow employees at Verizon who had a visual impairment and have been benefitted from the services of the Commission for the Blind. Mr. Kierce answered questions asked by Chairman Ballentine, Representative Mia McLeod, and Representative Walton McLeod.

Robert Giles, Student at Commission for the Blind 30:12

Mr. Giles thanked the Commission for the Blind for helping him adjust to new technologies and for helping blind South Carolinians improve their lives and find gainful employment.

Linda Jenkins, Summerville 34:06

Ms. Jenkins testified about her experience of losing her vision due to a degenerative condition, and how the Commission for the Blind helped her find meaning in her life again. Ms. Jenkins answered a question asked by Representative Taylor.

Frank Coppel, National Federation for the Blind in South Carolina 51:54

Mr. Coppel is President of the state chapter of the National Federation for the Blind. Mr. Coppel testified about the Federation's relationship with the Commission for the Blind. Mr. Coppel answered a question asked by Chairman Ballentine.

Gail Wigfall, Diversity and Inclusion Consultant at BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina 59:06

Ms. Wigfall testified about her experience as a recruitment consultant dealing with blind employees and the Commission for the Blind. Ms. Wigfall answered a question asked by Representative Mia McLeod.

- II. Representative Mia McLeod moved that the Subcommittee note in its Study that the public had an opportunity to testify before the Subcommittee at the meeting, and to include in the Study a list of all of those who did testify and

any written remarks submitted to the Subcommittee. A roll call vote was held, and the motion was passed.

Rep. Mia McLeod’s motion that the Subcommittee note in its Study that the public had an opportunity to testify before the Subcommittee at the meeting, and to include in the Study a list of all of those who did testify and any written remarks submitted to the Subcommittee:	Yea	Nay	Not Voting
Representative Nathan Ballentine	✓		
Representative Mia S. McLeod	✓		
Representative Walton McLeod	✓		
Representative Bill Taylor	✓		

III. Committee staff defined terms used in the Staff Study of the Commission.

IV. Both of those present from the Commission for the Blind who wished to testify before the Subcommittee were sworn in. They were: Rhonda Thompson (Director of Older Blind Program, Children’s Services Program, Prevention of Blindness Program, and Low-Vision Services) and Edward Bible (Director of Training and Employment).

Commissioner James Kirby thanked all of those who testified before the Subcommittee. He testified that the Commission was actively trying to fill the vacant positions on its Board. He also answered questions asked by Chairman Ballentine and Representative Taylor.

Rhonda Thompson testified about the services offered by the programs she oversees at the Commission for the Blind.

Ed Bible testified about the training and employment services offered at the Commission for the Blind.

V. The meeting was adjourned.