

Approved: February 7, 1994  
Date

# MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Joann Flower at 1:30 p.m. on February 7, 1994 in Room 313-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Rep. Wells, excused

Committee staff present: Emalene Correll, Legislative Research Department  
William Wolff, Legislative Research Department

Sue Hill, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Others attending: See attached list

The Full Committee on the House Public Health and Welfare met in Room 313-S at 1:30 p.m. to join the Appropriations Committee this date at which time there was a presentation given on Welfare Reform by Secretary Whiteman, Department of SRS.

Secretary Whiteman offered a hand-out which would be recorded in the minutes of the Appropriations Committee this date. She detailed facts versus myths regarding public assistance. She highlighted key proposals, i.e., focus on attainment of economic self-sufficiency, the effort to promote personal/parental responsibility for the support of children; make work pay and provide job training for recipients; reduce costs and long-term dependency through preventive programs; deliver services based on customer's need. She gave an overview on preserving families, detailed the SRS Mission Statement, i.e., make work pay; assure access to health care; strengthen child support enforcement to supplement the earnings of poor families; expand welfare work programs; offer community service jobs. She gave a detailed explanation on the application for foods stamps, cash assistance and medical assistance form that has been simplified from an earlier 25 page document.

Following Secretary Whiteman's presentation, Representative Barbara Allen gave testimony regarding three pieces of welfare reform legislation, HB 2938, HB 2939, HB 2940. Rep. Allen detailed all these welfare reform measures which related to the information presented by Secretary Whiteman. (This information will be recorded as attachments in the Appropriations committee minutes this date.)

The members of the House Public Health and Welfare Committee were excused at 2:45 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 8, 1994.