

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Melvin Neufeld at 9:00 A.M. on April 19, 2005, in Room 514-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Alan Conroy, Legislative Research Department
J. G. Scott, Legislative Research Department
Amy VanHouse, Legislative Research Department
Reagan Cussimano, Legislative Research Department
Michele Alishahi, Legislative Research Department
Amy Deckard, Legislative Research Department
Audrey Dunkel, Legislative Research Department
Julian Efird, Legislative Research Department
Debra Hollon, Legislative Research Department
Susan Kannarr, Legislative Research Department
Becky Krahl, Legislative Research Department
Carolyn Rampey, Legislative Research Department
Leah Robinson, Legislative Research Department
Matt Spurgin, Legislative Research Department
Robert Waller, Legislative Research Department
Jim Wilson, Revisor of Statutes
Mike Corrigan, Revisor of Statutes
Nikki Feuerborn, Administrative Assistant
Shirley Jepson, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Rae Anne Davis, Deputy Secretary of Operations, Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services (SRS)

Others attending:

See attached list.

- Attachment 1 Testimony on FY 2006 Federal Block Grants by Rae Anne Davis, SRS
- Attachment 2 Consensus Estimating State General Fund Memo for FY 2005 (revised) and FY 2006 (revised)
- Attachment 3 Consensus Caseload Estimate
- Attachment 4 Items for Omnibus Consideration
- Attachment 5 Comparison of FY 2005-FY 2006 Approved Expenditures, Governor's Recommendation and Currently Approved Budget
- Attachment 6 Governor's Budget Amendment No. 2
- Attachment 7 Children's Initiatives Fund, FY 2004-2005 and FY 2006
- Attachment 8 State Water Plan Fund: FY 2005 and FY 2006
- Attachment 9 Economic Development Initiatives Fund for FY 2005 and FY 2006

Hearing on FY 2006 Federal Block Grants:

Chair Neufeld hereby opened the public hearing on the proposed use and distribution of funds required as a condition of receipt of funding for federal block grant programs administered by the following state agency: Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services.

Rae Anne Davis, Deputy Secretary of Operations, Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services (SRS), presented an overview of the following federal block grants (Attachment 1):

- Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) – SRS and Aging budgets
- Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse (SAPT) Block Grant
- Community mental Health Services Block Grant (CMHS)
- Low Income Energy Assistance Block Grant (LIEAP) - SRS and KS Housing Resources Corp.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Appropriations Committee at 9:00 A.M. on April 19, 2005 in Room 514-S of the Capitol.

- Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness Block Grant (PATH)

Responding to questions from the Committee, Ms. Davis with the assistance of Lewis Kinsey, Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services, gave the following comments:

- Approximately \$4.3 million of TANF funds are included in the block grants.
- With regard to the delay in energy payments to applicants, the main reason is the delay by Congress to appropriate the funds. In addition, the program is staffed with temporary staff who primarily work during the three winter months.
- Rise in energy costs has caused an increase in energy assistance applications.
- Applicants for energy assistance are located by sending information to prior year applicants, recipients of food stamps and by sending applications to assistance agencies.
- The Department is allowed to carry-forward funds of 10 percent, resulting in a carry-forward of \$300,000 in FY 2004.

The Committee requested information on the measures used to determine the success of substance abuse preventive programs and community mental health programs.

Chair Neufeld hereby closed the public hearing on the proposed use and distribution of funds required as a condition of receipt of funding for federal block grant programs administered by the following state agency: Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services.

Alan Conroy, Legislative Research Department (LRD), presented the Consensus Estimating State General Fund Memo for FY 2005 (revised) and FY 2006 (revised) ([Attachment 2](#)). Mr. Conroy noted that higher energy costs, particularly gasoline, has an impact on retail sales throughout the state. Other factors noted include positive signs for employment and an increase in the state income tax totals. The Committee requested a copy of information sent to retailers with reference to the change in the law on corporation franchise tax.

The Legislative Research Fiscal Analyst Staff presented and reviewed the following documents:

- Consensus Caseload Estimate ([Attachment 3](#))
- Items for Omnibus Consideration ([Attachment 4](#))
- Comparison of FY 2005-FY 2006 Approved Expenditures, Governor's Recommendation and Currently Approved Budget ([Attachment 5](#))
- Governor's Budget Amendment No. 2 ([Attachment 6](#))
- Children's Initiatives Fund, FY 2004-2005 and FY 2006 ([Attachment 7](#))
- State Water Plan Fund: FY 2005 and FY 2006 ([Attachment 8](#))
- Economic Development Initiatives Fund for FY 2005 and FY 2006 ([Attachment 9](#))

Chair Neufeld announced that the Committee will adjourn to allow the Budget Committees to meet for the purpose of working the Items for Omnibus Consideration with the intent to return to full Committee on the following day.

Representative Sharp moved to approve the minutes, as written, of March 15, March 16, March 17, March 18, March 22, March 23, March 25, March 30, March 31 and April 1. The motion was seconded by Representative Landwehr. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m. The next meeting of the Committee will be held at 9:00 a.m. on April 20, 2005.

Melvin Neufeld, Chair