

ARIZONA STATE SENATE

48TH LEGISLATURE SECOND REGULAR SESSION

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

DATE: January 31, 2008 **TIME:** 9:00 a.m. **ROOM:** SHR 1

CHAIRMAN: Senator Allen **VICE CHAIRMAN:** Senator O'Halleran

ANALYST: Heather Owens **INTERN:** Venus Booth

**COMMITTEE
SECRETARY:** Jeff Turner

ATTENDANCE

BILLS

<u>Committee Members</u>	<u>Pr</u>	<u>Ab</u>	<u>Ex</u>	<u>Bill Number</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
Senator Aboud	x			SB 1023	FAILED
Senator Aguirre	x			SB 1091	DP
Senator Burton Cahill	x			SB 1092	DP
Senator Leff	x			SB 1113	DP
Senator Verschoor	x			SB 1117	DP
Senator O'Halleran, Vice Chairman	x			SB 1149	DP
Senator Allen, Chairman	x			SB 1152	FAILED

Chairman Allen called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. and attendance was taken.

PRESENTATIONS

Trauma System in Arizona

Dr. Scott Petersen, Director of Trauma, St. Joseph's Hospital and Terry Mullins, Bureau Chief of Emergency Medical Services and Trauma System, Arizona Department of Health Services, gave a presentation on the Trauma System in Arizona.

Casey Johanson, trauma patient, spoke in favor of the Trauma System in Arizona.

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

SB 1149 - emergency medical services – DO PASS

Heather Owens, Health Committee Research Analyst, explained SB 1149.

Senator O'Halleran, bill sponsor, further explained SB 1149.

Anne Wendell, Director, Government Relations, Catholic Healthcare West, testified in support of SB 1149 and submitted handouts (Attachment A) containing information pertaining to trauma centers. She answered questions posed by the Committee.

Dr. Corey Detlefs, Director of Public Affairs, Banner Good Samaritan, testified in support of SB 1149.

Preston Hammond, representing himself, testified in support of SB 1149.

Senator O'Halleran announced the individuals who registered their position on the bill (Attachment B).

**Senator O'Halleran moved SB 1149 be returned with a DO PASS recommendation.
The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 7-0-0 (Attachment 1).**

In explanation of her vote, Senator Aguirre stated, "Rural areas, we definitely need the training and education and the funding, it is important to keep that in mind. There is a strong need for that so, with that I vote aye."

In explanation of her vote, Senator Burton Cahill remarked, "I sat in on the governing board for AIMS and I have to tell you, it took me a few meetings to understand what everyone was talking about. There are doctors, nurses, administrators and others but, it did not take me very long to understand that they were all committed to making sure people in Arizona get the very best treatment when they do have trauma and how to deal with emergencies, whether they are large car accidents or a much larger catastrophe. The point being, I was amazed at the dedication and the effort put forth by the people that I saw in these meetings and I am very happy to vote aye."

In explanation of his vote, Senator Verschoor said, "With Senator O'Halleran's assurance and, looking over this information, I vote aye."

SB 1117 - hospitals; single group licenses – DO PASS

Venus Booth, Health Research Intern, explained SB 1117.

Elizabeth Baskett, Executive Director, Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association, testified in support of SB 1117.

Pat Walz, Yuma Regional Medical Center, testified in support of SB 1117.

Senator O'Halleran announced the individuals who registered their position on the bill (Attachment B).

**Senator O'Halleran moved SB 1117 be returned with a DO PASS recommendation.
The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 7-0-0 (Attachment 2).**

In explanation of his vote, Senator O'Halleran said, "I just want people to make sure they did look at this pamphlet and go to page three of the last bill and identify the cost of healthcare at the trauma centers in the state of Arizona and the 90 million dollars that is un-recovered cost, and the long term issue with that as we move on and with that, I vote aye."

SB 1113 - HIV-related testing – DO PASS

Heather Owens, Health Committee Research Analyst, explained SB 1113 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Susan Cannata, Attorney, Arizona Academy of Family Physicians, testified in support of SB 1113.

Doug Campo-Outcalt, President, Arizona Academy of Family Physicians, testified in support of SB 1113 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

David Landrith, Vice President of Policy and Political Affairs, Arizona Medical Association, testified in support of SB 1113.

Senator O'Halleran announced the individuals who registered their position on the bill (Attachment B).

**Senator O'Halleran moved SB 1113 be returned with a DO PASS recommendation.
The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 7-0-0 (Attachment 3).**

In explanation of her vote, Senator Aboud stated, "I just want to thank, particularly all of the individuals that took time to sign in, in support of this legislation, and I want to thank Senator Allen for sponsoring this bill. I appreciate that on behalf of the impacted community in my own community that is so affected and for that I vote aye."

SB 1023 - accountable health plans; claim history - FAILED

Heather Owens, Health Committee Research Analyst, explained SB 1023 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Henry Grosjean, representing himself, testified in support of SB 1023 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

David Childers, Lobbyist, Blue Cross Blue Shield, testified in opposition to SB 1023 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Steve Barclay, Lobbyist, CIGNA Healthcare of Arizona, testified in opposition to SB 1023.

Senator O'Halleran announced the individuals who registered their position on the bill (Attachment B).

**Senator O'Halleran moved SB 1023 be returned with a DO PASS recommendation.
The motion FAILED with a roll call vote of 0-7-0 (Attachment 4).**

SB 1091 - Arizona medical board – DO PASS

Venus Booth, Health Research Intern, explained SB 1091.

Brandy Petrone, Vice President of Policy and Political Affairs, Arizona Medical Board, testified in support of SB 1091 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Allen announced the individuals who registered their position on the bill (Attachment B).

**Senator O'Halleran moved SB 1091 be returned with a DO PASS recommendation.
The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 7-0-0 (Attachment 5).**

SB 1092 - appropriations; mental health research – DO PASS

Heather Owens, Health Committee Research Analyst, explained SB 1092.

Andrew Skodol, President, Institute for Mental Health Research, testified in support of SB 1092.

Senator O'Halleran announced the individuals who registered their position on the bill (Attachment B).

**Senator O'Halleran moved SB 1092 be returned with a DO PASS recommendation.
The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 5-2-0 (Attachment 6).**

In explanation of her vote, Senator Aboud stated, "I am voting aye and I am looking forward to a day when we have some money to appropriate this."

In explanation of her vote Senator Leff stated, "I think this is very worthwhile and I have always supported it but in a year when we have a 1.7 billion dollar deficit, I do not think this is the time to be recommending bills that appropriate anything so when the budget turns around I would be more than happy to support this but at this time I vote no."

SB 1152 - chiropractors; copayments - FAILED

Heather Owens, Health Committee Research Analyst, explained SB 1152 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Linda Gray, bill sponsor, testified in support of SB 1152 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Charles Bassett, Executive Director, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona, testified in opposition to SB 1152 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Barry Aarons, Legislative Liaison, Arizona Association of Chiropractic, testified in support of SB 1152 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Amanda Weaver, Executive Director, Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association, testified in opposition to SB 1152.

Dr. Richard Guarino, President, Arizona Association of Chiropractic, testified in support of SB 1152 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Michelle Bolton, State Director, National Federation of Independent Business, testified in opposition to SB 1152.

Debra Brimhall, representing herself, testified in support of SB 1152.

Senator O'Halleran announced the individuals who registered their position on the bill (Attachment B).

Senator O'Halleran moved SB 1152 be returned with a DO PASS recommendation. The motion FAILED with a roll call vote of 2-5-0 (Attachment 7).

In explanation of her vote, Senator Aboud stated, "This has been a difficult decision but I heard some really key pieces today. One is the percentage of the co-pay to the cost of the visit. I heard that osteopaths will do the manipulation that chiropractors will but the co-pay is going to be different. I appreciate the ability to get into a chiropractor really quickly when I have problems and, I go to a chiropractor, and I have for many years, but I do not believe that chiropractors are primary care physicians. If this bill implies that, I think we need to change that. I do not know how we could but at least for this time, I am supporting the community of people that believe in using alternative means to get relief and care in a rapid way, and I vote aye."

In explanation of her vote Senator Aguirre remarked, "I vote no and hope we can come to some kind of resolution in the near future."

In explanation of her vote, Senator Burton Cahill said, "I was very disappointed when I heard there was one meeting. I think if there was one unsuccessful meeting trying to bridge these differences, the best interest of the people would have been to have a series of meetings and maybe bring in a mediator. I am afraid that if we support this bill, there will be no more meetings and it will be over without solving the issues and I have to vote no."

In explanation of her vote Senator Leff stated, "I was struggling with this. I think if insurance companies end up having co-pays that are higher than the cost of medical care, no matter what the specialty is, I think that is a problem, because the insurance will advertise they are covering something when truly, they are not, and that is the area I think we should be looking at. I do not think this bill does this at all. I think it confuses the issue and it does equate a chiropractor with a primary care physician which clearly, in everything that we heard, is not the case so, I am going to have to

vote no on this bill but I hope we address the issues of the co-pay so they are fair and people can have access to chiropractic care which I use as well and has been tremendous help to me.”

In explanation of his vote, Senator Verschoor remarked, “I struggle with this issue too. I think that chiropractic medicine is medicine I would like to see it be able to flourish and as I looked at some of the letters that have come in and some of the evidence that has been given, I do not understand why there is a difference in the co-pay. I am not sure why there is a difference but then again, this is where I struggle because emotionally I can understand your point but philosophically it is a mandate. I do not know why government wants to always get in and manipulate the market. I can not be responsible for when it has done this in the past but I can be responsible for my vote and with that I vote no.”

In explanation of his vote Senator O’Halloran said, “I have a different view than Senator Burton Cahill, I think unless we continue this process during the legislative process, there will not be anymore discussion. This does concern me, and with that I vote aye.”

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Turner
Committee Secretary

(Audio recordings and attachments on file in the Secretary of the Senate’s Office/Resource Center, Room 115. Audio archives are available at <http://www.azsenate.gov>)