

ARIZONA STATE LEGISLATURE

VULNERABLE ADULT SYSTEM STUDY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting

December 10, 2025

1:00 P.M., SHR 1

Members of the public may access a livestream of the meeting here:

<https://www.azleg.gov/videoplayer/?clientID=6361162879&eventID=2025121001>

Members Present:

Senator Timothy "Tim" Dunn, Co-Chair

Senator Sally Ann Gonzales

Karen Barno

Brendon Blake

Toni Brown

Dr. Liz Carr

Jennifer Cunico

Shane Ham

Jakenna Lebsock

Molly McCarthy

Representative Selina Bliss, Co-Chair

Representative Patricia Contreras

Zaida Dedolph Piecoro

Lisa Pollock

Tory Roberg

Jaime Roberts

Ericka Stropka

Dave Voepel

Steve Wagner

Jon Scott Williams

Members Excused:

Misti Beaver

Kathryn Blair

Maria Dadgar

Dr. Lorrie Henderson

Staff:

Michael Madden, Senate Research Analyst

Kaytie Sherman, Senate Assistant Research Analyst

Samuel Rosenberg, Senate Assistant Research Analyst

Tasja McMaster, House Assistant Research Analyst

Co-Chair Dunn called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m. and attendance was taken.

Co-Chair Dunn provided opening remarks.

ELECTRONIC MONITORING IN GROUP HOMES & INTERMEDIATE CARE FACILITIES, SENATE STAFF

Kaytie Sherman, Senate Assistant Research Analyst, distributed and explained a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Electronic Monitoring in DDD Group Homes & Intermediate Care Facilities" (Attachment A) and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Molly McCarthy, Deputy Director, Arizona Department of Economic Security, answered questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee offered comments.

Ms. Sherman answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

Co-Chair Bliss offered comments.

Brendon Blake, Governor's Advisory Council on Aging, answered questions posed by the Committee.

Jaime Roberts, CEO, Arizona LeadingAge, answered questions posed by the Committee.

Karen Barno, CEO, Arizona Assisted Living Federation of Arizona, answered questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee offered comments.

Steve Wagner, President/Founder, RightCare Organization, answered questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee offered comments.

Molly McCarthy answered questions posed by the Committee.

Shane Ham, Elder Abuse and Complex Litigation Unit, Arizona Attorney General's Office, answered questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee offered comments.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Co-Chair Bliss read a letter from Representative Quang Nguyen (Attachment B) and offered comments.

Dana Kennedy, AARP Arizona, offered testimony and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Holly Lawder, representing self, offered testimony.

Jennifer Rockrich-Arena, representing self, offered testimony and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Representative Nguyen, Legislative District 1, offered testimony.

Akela Brown, representing self, offered testimony and answered questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee offered comments.

Kris Silverman, representing self, offered testimony and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Debbie Gross, representing self, offered testimony and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Marie Isaacson, Arizona LeadingAge, offered testimony and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Jake Hinman, Arizona Assisted Living Federation of America, offered testimony and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Stuart Goodman, AARP, offered testimony and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Tawnya Williams Christensen, representing self, offered testimony and answered questions posed by the Committee.

ADOPTION OF SUPPLEMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Co-Chair Dunn offered comments and proposed new language to be added to the recommendations and answered questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee offered comments.

Co-Chair Dunn answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee offered comments.

Senator Dunn moved that the Committee recommends that the Legislature consider adopting legislation that provides residents living in long-term care facilities with the statutory authority to utilize privately funded and maintained electronic monitoring devices and internet services in their private living space if requested by the resident or their authorized representative while the Department of Economic Security, the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System and the Department of Health Services commissions and the Legislature analyzes a report examining real-world data from assisted living facilities, skilled nursing facilities, DDD group homes, nursing-supported group homes and intermediate care facilities that already allow electronic monitoring and internet services in their private living space to inform our policy, including but not limited to: whether the presence of cameras or other electronic monitoring devices have an impact on changes in complaints, resident rights and autonomy, injuries and falls, Adult Protective Services involvement, and staffing. The Committee shall appoint a work group to facilitate the data collection and distribution. The motion CARRIED by voice vote.

NEXT STEPS

Co-Chair Dunn offered closing remarks.

Attached is a list noting the individuals who registered their positions on the agenda items (Attachment C).

Attached is a form noting the individual who submitted a Speaker slip on the agenda items (Attachment D).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jackson Cooper
Committee Secretary

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