



MEMBERS:  
SENATOR ROBERTSON,  
MAJORITY VICE CHAIR  
SENATOR EMMONS  
SENATOR HUNE  
SENATOR JONES  
SENATOR SCHUITMAKER  
SENATOR WARREN,  
MINORITY VICE CHAIR  
SENATOR GLEASON

**STATE OF MICHIGAN  
THE SENATE**

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**HEALTH POLICY COMMITTEE**

**SENATOR JIM MARLEAU, CHAIRMAN**

**MINUTES**

A meeting of the Senate Health Policy Committee was held on Tuesday, March 6, 2012, at 12:00 p.m. in the Senate Hearing Room of the Boji Tower. Senator Marleau called the meeting to order at 12:06 p.m.

Attendance was recorded as follows:

Present: Senators Marleau (C), Robertson, Emmons, Hune, Jones, Schuitmaker, Warren, and Gleason

Absent: None

Excused: None

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Senator Marleau announced the order of business:

- Adoption of the March 1, 2012 minutes
- SB 414 Sen. Green Insurance; health care corporations; coverage for certain treatment related to autism; provide for.
- SB 415 Sen. Hunter Insurance; health; coverage for certain treatment related to autism; provide for.
- SB 981 Sen. Richardville Insurance; health; autism coverage incentive act; create. Creates new act.

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Senator Emmons moved to adopt the Health Policy Committee Minutes of March 1, 2012; without objection, the motion prevailed.

Senator Marleau announced the next order of business was Senate Bills 414, 415 and 981.

The following individuals testified in support of the bills:

- Lois DeMott, Association for Children's Mental Health (ACMH) and Citizens for Prison Reform, Supports with inclusion of all mental health
- Ellen Rebeka, Grandparent
- Erin Nieman, Noah's ARC, Autism Resource Center
- Morgan Aue-VanDenBerg, Clinic Director, Step By Step Academy, Ohio
- Stacie Rulison, Parent
- Ronald Sulkowski, Grandparent

The following individuals testified in opposition to the bills:

- Malisa Pearson, presented testimony on behalf of Dee Lentto, ACMH – Michigan Families
- Paula Eifler, ACMH - Families of Michigan
- Amy Price, presented testimony on behalf of Coleen Wilsdon, Parent, not able to attend

Roberta Justice, representing Michigan Music Therapists, offered testimony on the bills requesting the inclusion of music therapy.

The following individuals submitted cards in opposition to the bills, they did not offer testimony:

- Mike Frederick, Mid Michigan Health
- Andy Johnston, Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce
- Wendy Block, Michigan Chamber of Commerce
- Kristen Kraft, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, Opposed as written
- Delaney Newberry, Michigan Manufacturers Association, Opposed as written
- Kathleen Gross, Michigan Psychaitric Society, Opposed as written
- Vince Coraci, National Association of Social Workers – MI, Opposed as written
- Linda Burghardt, Naltional Alliance of Mental Illness (NAMI) – MI, Opposed as written
- Leon Judd, Parent / NAMI, would support mental health parity
- Todd Tennis, Elder Law & Disability Rights Section, State Bar of Michigan, Opposed as written
- Rita Walters, Parent, Opposed as written
- Noah Smith, Michigan Counseling Association, Opposed as written
- Denise Sloan, American Academy of Pediatrics – MI Chapter, Opposed as written
- Mark Reinstein, Mental Health Association of Michigan, Opposed as written
- Scott Lyon, Small Business Association of Michigan, Opposed as written
- Charles Owens, National Federation of Independent Business

The following individuals submitted cards in support of the bills, they did not offer testimony:

- Chad Wing, Eastern Michigan University
- Michelle Lang, Oakland University
- Katie John, Western Michigan University
- Cortney Goldberg, Resident
- Howard Bunsis, Parent
- Lynn Weimeister, Beaumont Health System
- Louise Somalski, American Federation of Teachers – MI
- Shelly Edgerton, Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA)
- Don Olendorf, ESA Legislative Group / Small & Rural Schools, School Equity Caucus
- Janet and Tom Riopelle, Autism Speaks

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- Kathy Angerer, former member, Michigan House of Representatives
- Marcia and Tyler Last, Parents
- Jim Breznai, Autism Insurance in Michigan (AIM)
- Brad Biladeau, MI Association of School Administrators, MI Association of Intermediate School Administrators
- Dr. Michael Sandler, Michigan State Medical Society
- Jenita Moore, Office of Financial and Insurance Regulation, LARA
- Chris Mitchell, Michigan Health & Hospital Association
- Lisa Grost, Parent
- Kristan Buege Miller, Parent
- Amy Sanderson, Parent
- Marilyn and Richard Jull, Grandparents
- Cathrine and Mark Karow, Parents
- Louise Douglas, Resident
- Connie Combs, The Early Intervention Center, Southfield
- Dawn and Donald Worthington, Envision Autism Center, Battle Creek
- Ann Breznai, Autism Speaks
- Rodica Babut, Parent
- Gloria and Stan Van Singel, Grandparents
- Sonia Manjeshwar, Aunt
- Scott Koenigsknecht, Parent
- Lisa Espinoza, AIM and Autism Speaks
- Charlotte Taylor, Parent
- Jana Van Singel, Aunt
- Carolyn Condon, Resident
- Holly Towler, Resident
- Mara Husband, Parent
- Jerry DeGroot, Resident
- Julia Karn, Resident
- Lori Fox, Resident
- Annette Kelly, Mrs. Michigan United States
- Stacey Murphy, Parent
- Ralph and Linda Blazek, Parent
- Mary Kokoszka, Resident
- Jodie Randazzo, Resident
- Karynn Sheeter, AmeriCare
- Robert LeFever, Macomb ISD
- Ellen Hookstra, MI Association of School Social Workers and MI Association of School Psychologists, Supports parity for all disorders
- Mary Douglass, Parent
- Ken Lawrence, Resident
- Susan Gregory, Resident
- Jennifer Zagon, Parent
- Anita Brigman, Resident
- Rita Douglas, Parent
- Larry Nieman, Noahs – ARC
- Representative Lisa Brown
- Jessica Rogers, The Early Intervention Center, Ypsilanti

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- Allison Greening, The Early Intervention Center, Southfield
- Kate McAuliffe, Monroe Intermediate School District
- Dr. Colleen Allen, Director, Henry Ford Health System Autism Center/Director, AAOM
- Lisa Kowalski, Autism Society Oakland County
- Kathy Sweeney, OUCARES, Oakland University Center for Autism
- Linda Brauer, Association for Children's Mental Health, Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (CHADD)
- Mary Sharp, Physician / Parent
- John Sturtevant, Self / Allegiance Health
- Steven VanSingel, Parent
- Kate Towler, Parent
- Barbara Byers, on behalf of family members

The following individuals submitted cards with no position given, they did not offer testimony:

- Dionne Foster Sanders, Parent
- Beverly Klooster, Grandparent

Senator Marleau adjourned the meeting without objection at 12:59 p.m.

**Date approved by the Committee: March 8, 2012**

(An audio recording of this committee meeting is available upon request for a minimal fee.)