

**COMMITTEE MINUTES for
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**

Date: March 03, 2009

Place: Room 116

Convened: 3/3/2009
10:20 AM

Recessed:

Reconvened:

Adjourned: 3/3/2009
11:25 AM

Present: Senators Hatch-CH, Ragan-VC, Johnson-RM, Hartsuch, Schmitz
Representatives Heddens-CH, Thede-VC, Heaton-RM, Miller, L., Rayhons, Schulte,
Shomshor, Smith, Wessel-Kroeschell

Absent: None

Excused: None

Senator Hatch called the subcommittee meeting to order at 10:20 am. Roll call was taken and attendance recorded.

The minutes of the February 26th meeting were approved.

Senator Hatch talked about the Task Force established last year to review the nursing home accountability measures. The group consists of representatives from provider groups, Department of Human Services, Department of Inspections and Appeals, and legislators. Senator Hatch introduced Task Force members Jennifer Steenblock, Nursing Facilities Program Manager with DHS, Amy Perry with Medicaid Enterprise, Jeff Stegerda with Iowa Health Care Association, and Anthony Carroll with AARP. They provided highlights included in their handouts;

--Iowa's Nursing Facility Accountability Measure Program Review, Workgroup Review (Senate File 2425, Section 33, Draft Recommendation Matrix
--Sample of facility performance rates under the proposed changes

Subcommittee members asked questions and expressed concerns about performance measures being within the internal control of the facility, effects on facilities in rural areas, total compensation dollars, occupancy rates and de-licensing beds, benchmarks included in administrative rules, easing the burden of reporting additional data requirements, sustaining current wage levels, implementing measures in accordance with intent of legislature, and cost comparison of the old system compared to the new system.

Senator Hatch stated the next subcommittee meeting will include a presentation from LSA staff on the budget and a caucus of Democrats and Republicans. Senator Hatch asked that legislators provide amendments of policy or dollar amounts to be considered by the subcommittee.

Meeting adjourned at 11:25 am.

Senator Jack Hatch

Doris Taylor, Committee Secretary