

Members

Sen. Travis Holdman, Chairman
Sen. Greg Taylor
Rep. Tim Wesco
Rep. Vanessa Summers
Cinda Kelley
Tracie Wells
Melanie Brizzi
Gregory N. Larkin, M.D.
Jim Greeson
Tony Bennett
David McKee
Scott Sanders



COMMITTEE ON CHILD CARE

Legislative Services Agency
200 West Washington Street, Suite 301
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2789
Tel: (317) 233-0696 Fax: (317) 232-2554

LSA Staff:

Chris Baker, Fiscal Analyst for the Committee
Ann Naughton, Attorney for the Committee

Authority: IC 12-17.2-3.3

MEETING MINUTES¹

Meeting Date: October 10, 2012
Meeting Time: 12:00 P.M.
Meeting Place: State House, 200 W. Washington St.,
Room 130
Meeting City: Indianapolis, Indiana
Meeting Number: 3

Members Present: Sen. Travis Holdman, Chairman; Sen. Greg Taylor; Rep. Tim Wesco; Rep. Vanessa Summers; Cinda Kelley; Tracie Wells; Melanie Brizzi; Mr. Carnes for Gregory N. Larkin, M.D.; Jim Greeson; Ms. Jones for Tony Bennett; David McKee.

Members Absent: Scott Sanders.

Senator Travis Holdman, Chairman, called the third meeting of the Committee on Child Care (COCC) to order at 12:01 P.M. Chairman Holdman announced to the persons in attendance that COCC members had just visited three child care facilities earlier that morning. He called on Melanie Brizzi to describe the facilities that the members visited and invited the members to make comments on what they saw and heard.

Ms. Brizzi said the COCC first stopped at the Little Doves registered ministry. She said that Little Doves was at Level 3 on Paths To Quality (PTQ). She said the second facility visited was Hopewells, also a registered ministry. Finally, she said the members visited Day Nursery in the State Government Center North building.

Senator Holdman noted that the first and second facilities visited had a difference. He said that the first facility had taken a United Way grant. He continued that the second facility visited had

¹ These minutes, exhibits, and other materials referenced in the minutes can be viewed electronically at <http://www.in.gov/legislative>. Hard copies can be obtained in the Legislative Information Center in Room 230 of the State House in Indianapolis, Indiana. Requests for hard copies may be mailed to the Legislative Information Center, Legislative Services Agency, West Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204-2789. A fee of \$0.15 per page and mailing costs will be charged for hard copies.

been offered a grant from the United Way, yet had chosen not to take the help from the United Way.

Senator Taylor said that lack of information about the curriculums in place at different child care facilities can lead to differing quality between providers. He noted that one facility on the tour had downloaded a curriculum from the Internet. He said improved information to the child care provider might lead to an improvement to a provider's curriculum.

Senator Holdman asked about the process of getting a (Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) voucher swipe card for a family. He mentioned that possibly persons other than the parents to whom a swipe card was issued were using them.

Ms. Brizzi responded that the BCC really tries to carefully insure that voucher swipe cards are used only by the qualifying family. She listed the order of events that usually takes place before a family gets their swipe card, including face-to-face meetings between the family asking for the voucher and government personnel issuing the vouchers to verify the family's identity and review necessary documents of eligibility for the voucher. She said once the swipe card is issued and the child care facility has been chosen, that card will only work on the swipe machine at the chosen facility. She said the parent will swipe the card at the drop-off and again at pickup.

Ms. Wells said she saw basic health and safety problems at one of the facilities. She said she thought supervision was a big concern.

Ms. Brizzi said that not all ministry child care providers are the same. She said some are really good, others are striving to improve, and others are not and could benefit from better information and resources to seek improvement.

Representative Wesco commented on the remarkable job one of the ministry providers had done on the fund-raising efforts for their child care program.

Senator Taylor asked how many parents of the children at that ministry were members of or attended the provider church. He thought it was very few. He said that in fact not only are ministries fund-raising to primarily help their congregation, but they are actually fund-raising in order to help their communities in addition to their congregation.

Ms. Wells said she was still troubled at how she thought some facilities are poorly run. Ms. Wells asked about CCDF rates. Ms. Brizzi said they are at the care-finder website on the Bureau of Child Care homepage.

Following Ms. Wells comment, Senator Holdman closed the feedback session of the members. He reminded COCC members to have all ideas to LSA staff for preliminary drafts by October 15. He said they would come back as a committee to meet on October 29 to consider all drafts with the idea to vote them to the General Assembly for the next legislative session either in unanimous or majority fashion.

Senator Holdman, seeing no further comment, adjourned the meeting at 12:25 P.M.