

Rep. Stephanie T. Bolden, Chair
Rep. Andria L. Bennett
Rep. Gerald L. Brady
Rep. Timothy D. Dukes
Rep. Jeffrey N. Spiegelman



Sen. John J. Walsh, Vice-Chair
Sen. Stephanie L. Hansen
Sen. Brian G. Pettyjohn
Sen. Anthony Delcollo
Sen. David P. Sokola

STATE OF DELAWARE

JOINT LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT AND SUNSET COMMITTEE

Minutes – 02.06.2018

Chair Bolden called the meeting to order at 5:39 pm. Committee members present included Vice-Chair Walsh; Representatives Dukes and Spiegelman; Senators Delcollo, Hansen, Pettyjohn and Sokola. Representatives Bennett and Brady were absent. Staff members present included Julie Fedele, Committee Analyst; Holly Vaughn Wagner, Legislative Attorney; Art Jenkins and Spencer Price, Senior Legislative Analysts from the Controller General's Office; Julia Dumas Wilks, Administrative Specialist; and Victoria Cook, Legislative Fellow. A quorum was met.

Chair Bolden welcomed the members of the committee to the fourth meeting of the Joint Legislative Oversight and Sunset Committee ("JLOSC") in the 149th General Assembly, Second Session, and called for introductions of Committee members present. Chair Bolden read a brief explanation of the role of the joint committee.

Senator Pettyjohn motioned to approve minutes from January 23, 2018 meeting, seconded by Representative Spiegelman. The motion carried 7 (Senators Hansen, Pettyjohn, Sokola, and Walsh; Representatives Bolden, Dukes, and Spiegelman)-0, 3 absent (Senator Delcollo; Representatives Bennett and Brady).

Discussion moved to the 2017 holdover, the State Board of Education. Chair Bolden welcomed Dennis Loftus, President; Nina Lou Bunting, Vice-President; and Donna Johnson, Executive Director, to present to the Committee on behalf of the State Board of Education ("Board").

The Committee reviewed their recommendations and the Board's status as it stood at the end of last session. Comments were made and it was decided that legislation would be drafted based on the recommendations of the Committee.

Chair Bolden recommended that the Board returns to discuss the draft legislation during a meeting in March.

Discussion moved to the presentation from Council on Correction ("Council"). Chair Bolden invited the Council's Chairperson, Darryl L. Chambers, and Vice-Chairperson, Muhammad Salaam, to present to the Committee on behalf of the Council on Correction.

Mr. Chambers introduced himself and Council members, and presented the Council's mandate, mission, projects, and objectives. Emphasis was placed on fostering safety, security, and trust

between the Department of Corrections (“DOC”), inmates, and the community. Mr. Chambers explained since he was installed by the Governor in October, he would like to shift the focus of the Council to do more research and community engagement. In addition, the Council would like to propose moving the location of Council meetings to venues in Wilmington and the New Castle area, in an effort to encourage engagement among those communities. The Council’s draft by-laws will be on the agenda at the March 16 Council meeting.

Discussion and questions from the Committee included the Council’s mission and advisory capacity to the DOC, the location of meetings, outreach to public safety, connection to service providers for former inmates, and the Council’s organization and administrative processes. The Committee expressed concern regarding the Council’s past difficulties reaching a quorum and making recommendations to the DOC. Discussion and questions further included defining the Council’s, organization, and training for its members. Modifications may be necessary to § 8905 of Title 29.

Chair Bolden announced that the Council will return for the Committee’s recommendation meeting on March 20, 2018 at noon.

Chair Bolden motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 pm, which was seconded by Representative Spiegelman. The motion carried 8 (Senators Delcollo, Hansen, Pettyjohn, Sokola, and Walsh; Representatives Bolden, Dukes, and Spiegelman)-0, 2 absent (Representatives Bennett and Brady).

Respectfully prepared by:

Julie Fedele, JLOSC Analyst, Joint Legislative Oversight and Sunset Committee.

Access to the audio recording of this proceeding is available upon request.