



COMMITTEE WEEK UPDATE FOR THE UPCOMING 2012 SESSION
Friday, October 21, 2011
Conclusion of Committee Week 3

re-districting.

We have just concluded the third of the scheduled committee weeks before the January start of the 2012 Session. Like last committee week, this week's agenda was primarily focused around state agency LBR presentations and

On Tuesday, Oct. 18th:

The House Criminal Justice Committee met and heard HB1277 relating to inmate reentry by Porth. With a promise to strike the bill and rewrite it with tougher guidelines, the committee passed it. HB183 relating to pretrial substance abuse programs by Moratis passed unanimously along with its Senate counter part, SB186 by Ring in the Senate Judiciary committee meeting.

Senate Children, Families, and Elder Affairs committee met from 10:45-12:30. They heard presentations from Claude Hendon, Staff Director for Senator Negrón's committee, Helath and Human Services Appropriations regarding Interim Project 2012-1-9, Crisis Stabilization Units and Interim Project 2012-108, Forensic Mental Health System (both presentations are attached in this email). In the CSU presentation Hendon suggested reducing the number of Baker Act funded CSU beds, conduct a detailed analysis

On Wednesday, Oct. 5th

Wednesday we a relatively quiet day spent mostly on redistricting.

Healthcare committees heard presentations on the ibudget and independent living while criminal justice committees went as far as canceling their meetings.

On Thursday, Oct 6th

Well Thursday morning's Senate Health and Human Services meeting made up for the lack of excitement on Wednesday. To listen to a podcast of the Senate HHS Appropriations and Committee and Senator Negrón's remarks go to the Council web site at <http://www.fccmh.org/legislative/capitol.asp>.

The meeting started out with a statement from Chairman Negrón regarding Medicaid. The Medicaid estimating conference comes out with their numbers on October 17th but Negrón is guestimating that Medicaid will be behind \$310 million this year and estimates he will need a billion next year to fund Medicaid. He feels that the Medicaid program, being run the way it is today, is crowding out other much needed budgeted programs. Nothing new here.

Next up was a presentation from Mike Hansen, Director of APD. Hansen told the committee he would be short \$ 55 million this year in APD and was questioning on where he would take those cut. Chairman Negron told Hansen he would be glad to take the \$55 million from mental health and substance abuse and give it to APD where people with disabilities- people with needs at no fault of their could benefit. Senator Gaetz weighed in that he supports Negron's decision and his way to help APD. In the same statement Gaetz also asked to debate the difference between hard and soft services, agreeing that he as well, sees himself cutting those services first. Negron granted the debate and it will be heard in upcoming weeks.

Amy Baker, Director of the Office of Economic and Demographic Research for the Legislature gave a report on ROI and how and what determines ROI. It is very straight forward. The report is attached, 3rd tab in the attached committee packet. She just hit the high points because of time constraints.

And that concluded this committee week.

The next committee week is scheduled for the week of October 17th.

Articles of interest:

<http://www.sunshinestatenews.com/story/andy-gardiner-take-over-2014-florida-state-senate>
http://www.healthnewsflorida.org/hnf_stories/read/taxpayer_rip_off_predicted_for_medicaid