

MINUTES OF THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Emert at 10:15 on March 22, 2000 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Senator Pugh (excused)

Committee staff present:

Gordon Self, Revisor
Mike Heim, Research
Jerry Donaldson, Research
Mary Blair, Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Ken Hales, Juvenile Justice Authority (JJA)
Joyce Allegrucci, Secretary, Child and Family Services, SRS

Others attending: see attached list

The minutes of the March 20th joint and regular meetings and the March 21st meeting were approved on a motion by Senator Goodwin and seconded by Senator Donovan. Carried.

Senate Sub for HB 2224—children and adults, abuse of, reporting requirements, exemptions

Conferee Hales requested reconsideration of **SB 622/Senate Substitute for HB 2224** and briefly reviewed the JJA's amendments to this bill. He stated that these amendments are necessary to bring the juvenile offender code into compliance with Federal regulations.(attachment 1) Following discussion Senator Goodwin moved to amend the JJA amendments into Senate Sub for HB 2224 and pass the bill out favorably as amended, Senator Vratil seconded. Carried.

SubSB 633—CINC; defining child in need of protection and youth in need of community intervention; creating the family services and community intervention fund

The Chair inquired of Conferee Allegrucci if there was a way to take from the bill what is needed by SRS for the adoption of the Adoption and Safe Families Act (AFSA). Conferee Allegrucci stated that it would require rewriting the bill. She reiterated from her testimony yesterday that most of the opposition with this bill is with the bifurcation of the Child in Need of Care (CINC) code. She stated she felt it was important to have distinctions in the CINC code to assure accountability. She reviewed the work SRS has done over this past year meeting with judges and district attorneys to address their concerns. Reluctance to pass the bill was expressed by several Committee members due to fears expressed by the opposition that this issue was "moving too fast" and needed further consideration. It appears there is an urgent need to pass the bill within a week in order to receive federal funds. On inquiry by Committee, Conferee Allegrucci stated that the bifurcation of CINC was not required in AFSA. Following further discussion, the Chair requested that SRS Attorney Laura Howard work with Revisor Gordon Self to draft a version of the bill that might be acceptable to all.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m. The next scheduled meeting is March 23, 2000.