

From: Veldran, Katherine
To: Bryan Kost <kostbr@scdhhs.gov>
Date: 8/27/2015 5:34:53 PM
Subject: RE: House Leg. Oversight - Planned Parenthood

Thank you. This is very helpful.
KV

From: Bryan Kost [mailto:kostbr@scdhhs.gov]
Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 5:07 PM
To: Veldran, Katherine
Subject: Fwd: House Leg. Oversight - Planned Parenthood

Not the LAC letter but here is this in case you did not have it.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jenny L Stirling <LYNCHJEN@scdhhs.gov>
Date: August 27, 2015 at 4:40:46 PM EDT
To: Bryan Kost <kostbr@scdhhs.gov>, "Christian L. Soura" <Christian.Soura@scdhhs.gov>, Deirdra Singleton <Singled@scdhhs.gov>, Byron Roberts <Robertsb@scdhhs.gov>, Chief of Staff <chiefofstaff@scdhhs.gov>
Cc: Adriana Day <Adriana.Day@scdhhs.gov>, Heather Tucker <Heather.Tucker@scdhhs.gov>, Valeria Williams <WILLVAL@scdhhs.gov>
Subject: Re: House Leg. Oversight - Planned Parenthood

FYI, the house oversight staffer called to tell me they posted those letters to the committee online. They will post other stuff as they begin investigating. <http://scstatehouse.gov/committeeinfo/HouseLegislativeOversightCommittee/OtherStudies/OtherStudyNumber1.php>

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 26, 2015, at 4:03 PM, Jenny L Stirling <LYNCHJEN@scdhhs.gov> wrote:

They voted (9-7) to move forward with investigation into PP. Below are the notes:

Rep. Newton, Chairman

Rep. Hicks, Rep. Garry Smith, Rep. Dellaney, Rep. Thayer, Rep. Brannon have all requested an investigation into PP (via state agencies) through an unscheduled study via the House Oversight Committee.

Chairman called on Rep. Hicks regarding her request to the committee. She says she wants an investigation based on government agencies that may be funding them. She held up a stack of papers showing how much she has received thus far – says there is a lot of work that needs to be done. Says LACs report found that DHEC has not been overseeing properly. Says 34 recommendations have been given and DHEC has fallen short. Says DHEC doesn't have formal procedures relating to abortion clinics and review. 741 abortions were not recorded by DHEC but were reported by the abortion clinics. She asks the committee to review DHEC, DSS, DHHS and MUSC. Mentions that AG is putting his Medicaid fraud unit on this.

Rep. James Smith – says we have no power or authority to investigate Planned Parenthood.

She says she understands that and that is why they are focusing on the agencies that pay or work with them. Rep. Smith asks if she has any evidence of criminal activity going on in SC. Rep. Hicks says no but that is why she wants to investigate. Rep. Smith talks about probable cause – says they have to have that in order to investigate. Rep. Smith says the Governor asked for a DHEC review, AG asked for a Medicaid review, there has already been an LAC audit. Rep. Smith says PP just passed a review with flying colors.

Rep. McLeod – Asks about the 740 abortions not recorded – Rep. Hicks says it was 2009-2013. Goes on to say he thinks the committee should focus on their original intentions – reviewing the agencies they selected.

Rep. Hicks mentioned the follow-up paperwork Rep. Smith requested of DHHS and says we assured him we would get the information to him.

Rep. Smith says they will set a precedence if they undertake this investigation because there is no evidence of wrong doing at this point. Rep. Hicks says this is not a Republican issue – but it's a women's health issue. Rep. Smith asks if she can identify a democrat on her letter. She says no. It got a little back and forth between Hicks and Smith regarding the scheduled agencies because she said they would get to the agencies she wants reviewed anyway and she is just asking for that to be moved forward.

Rep. Mia McLeod – Asks if Rep. Hicks is aware that the SC Planned Parenthood doesn't participate in the fetal tissue issue. Rep. Hicks says that is what they say. Rep. McLeod says if this is really a women's health issue they should be talking about Medicaid expansion. Rep. Hicks says women and children already have access to Medicaid. McLeod says she hasn't heard from her constituents on this matter.

Rep. Stringer – asks if Rep. Hicks recalls the original LAC audit. Rep. Hicks says yes.

Rep. Felder says they should let the AGs office take the lead on the investigation.

Rep. Taylor asks if they could now take a motion. Ch. Newton says a few more people want to speak.

Rep. Ballentine agrees they should move forward with reviewing agencies as planned and let the AGs office handle the investigation.

Rep. Norman – He says they have their hands full. Says he doesn't think they have the time to do the investigation.

Rep. Williams – He says men play an important role in this issue as well. Says there can be mental stress among men on this issue as well. Says the AG is investigating and they need to let them get their hands on it before they get involved. Says he hasn't heard from any mothers, etc.

Rep. Tallon – Asks if the governor has this power? Has she connected with them?

Rep. Hicks mentions that 4 of the 6 Medicaid plans have contracts with PP. Mentions their termination clause and says the Governor can cancel those contracts because DHHS falls under her. She says she has reached out to the governor's office but hasn't gotten a call back. She says the Governor can say the word and her agency person can initiate the termination.

Rep. Mia McLeod – Says she appreciates what she's trying to do. Says she thinks she is genuinely concerned. Says to do what Rep. Hicks is asking is ill timed for the various reasons mentioned today.

Rep. Taylor – Says he's heard from about 12 constituents just in the last day. Says the answer that they don't have time isn't good enough. He moves for investigation as it relates to DHEC, DHHS and DSS money to PP.

By a vote of 9-7 the motion passes. In the near term they will send out notes on how they will move forward with the investigation.

Jenny L Stirling

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