



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

AGENDA

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PERMANENCY FOR YOUNG CHILDREN IN THE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM

**Representative Samantha Kerkman, Chair
Senator Mary Lazich, Vice-Chair**

July 24, 2012

Room 412 East, State Capitol

- 10:00 a.m.* CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL.
- 10:05 a.m. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE'S JUNE 27, 2012 MEETING.
- 10:10 a.m. INTRODUCTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS.
- 10:15 a.m. PRESENTATION FOLLOW-UP ON OUT-OF-HOME CARE STATISTICS, BY DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES (DCF):
- MaryAnn Lippert, Executive Assistant.
 - John Elliott, Division of Safety and Permanence (DSP) Deputy Administrator.
 - Michelle Rawlings, DSP Research and Program Operations Manager.
- 10:35 a.m. PRESENTATION ON IMPROVING CHILD WELFARE: STATE LEGISLATIVE EXPERIENCE AND CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES REVIEW FINDINGS, BY NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES (NCSL):
- Jack Tweedie, NCSL Children and Families Program Group Director.
 - Nina Williams-Mbengue, NCSL Children and Families Child Welfare Program Director.
- 12:00 p.m. LUNCH.

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*All of the times listed in the agenda are approximations.

(OVER)

- 12:45 p.m. PRESENTATION ON SUPPORTING BIRTH, FOSTER, AND ADOPTIVE FAMILIES, BY MEMBERS OF THE WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY & CHILDREN'S AGENCIES (WAFCA):
- Introduction, by Linda Hall, WAFCA Executive Director.
 - Family Finding: Locating and Engaging Relatives of Children in Foster Care, by Children's Service Society of Wisconsin (CSSW):
 - Amy Herbst, Child Welfare Vice-President.
 - Rick Lockwood, Project Director.
 - Maintaining Permanence With Birth and Adoptive Families, by Lutheran Social Services (LSS):
 - Ron Hauser, Program Services – Children & Families Vice-President.
 - Heather Yaeger, Out-of-Home Care and Adoption Services Executive Director.
 - Our Home Our Family: Strengthening Foster and Adoptive Families, by Adoption Resources of Wisconsin (ARW)
 - Colleen Ellingson, Chief Executive Officer.
- 2:15 p.m. PRESENTATION ON REUNIFICATION BARRIER EXPERIENCES OF A MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDER AND BIOLOGICAL PARENTS, BY:
- Kristina Finnel, Mental Health America of Wisconsin (MHA) Chief Executive Officer.
 - Karissa Vogel, MHA Strong Families Healthy Homes Program Manager.
 - Christye Johnson, MHA Peer Support Specialist and biological parent.
 - Melanie Deavers, MHA Peer Support Specialist and biological parent.
- 3:00 p.m. DESCRIPTION OF MATERIAL DISTRIBUTED:
- Memo No. 2, *Termination of Parental Rights When Child is in Need of Protection or Services* (July 17, 2012).
- 3:10 p.m. PRESENTATION ON DATA FROM TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS TRIALS, BY WISCONSIN STATE PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE (SPD):
- Adam Plotkin, SPD Legislative Liaison.
 - Diane Rondini, Assistant State Public Defender.
- 3:25 p.m. DISCUSSION OF COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT.
- 3:55 p.m. OTHER BUSINESS.
- 4:00 p.m. ADJOURNMENT.

Other committee members: Reps. Billings and Grigsby; and Public Members Ellingson, Foley, Gumz, Herbst, Jasmer, Leoso-Corbine, Maki, Murphy, Neeson, Othrow, Rogers, Snead, and Sowinski.