

FISCAL COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL COURT
MINUTES
WORK SESSION TO UNDERSTAND THE NURSING HOME RATE SETTING PROCEDURE
July 26, 2006

The Fiscal Committee of the General Court met on Wednesday, July 26, 2006 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 100 of the State House for a work session with officials from the counties to understand the nursing home rate setting procedure.

Members in attendance were as follows:

Representative Frederick King, Chairman
Senator Charles Morse, Vice Chairman
Representative Joseph Stone, Clerk
Representative Elizabeth Hager
Representative Mary Jane Wallner
Representative Peter Franklin
Senator Theodore Gatsas
Senator Robert Clegg
Senator Lou D'Allesandro

The following individuals representing each county were also in attendance:

Ellen Ann Robinson, Hillsborough County
Robert Chase, Merrimack County
Heidi Smith, Sullivan County
Eileen Bolander, Grafton County
Suzanne Collins, Coos County
Sheryl Trombly, Cheshire County
Forrest Painter, Carroll County
Bernard Gray, Belknap County
Sue Denopolous, Rockingham County
Ken Robichaud, Strafford County

Linda Hodgdon, Budget Director, Office of the Governor was also present.

Chairman King opened the work session at 9:05 a.m. and gave those in attendance a bit of background concerning the budget neutral factor which is a component of the nursing home rate setting process, and how it had gone up dramatically this year from 12.7 percent to 26 percent. Copies of a handout entitled "Coos County Nursing Hospital Walk through Rate Setting" were distributed and explained.

John Stephen, Commissioner, Jonathan McCosh, Financial Manager, Community-Based Services and Douglas McNutt, Bureau Chief, Elderly and Adult Services presented a handout and attachments entitled "Nursing Home Rate Setting" and responded to questions of the Committee.

A question and answer session followed the presentation.

Fiscal Committee Work Session Minutes
July 26, 2006
Page 2

Chairman King thanked all in attendance for taking the time to come to this very important work session and requested that Commissioner Stephen continue to keep everyone informed and part of this ongoing process.

The work session adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Representative Joseph Stone, Clerk