Arkansas News Bureau: Feb. 10, 2011 "Rival bill would double Beebe's half-cent food tax cut" by John Lyon
http://arkansasnews.com/2011/02/10/189442/

3 from state sign on to ‘birthright citizenship’ bill
BY ALEX DANIELS
Arkansas’ three Republican congressmen have signed on to legislation that would end “birthright citizenship,” which grants U.S citizenship to anyone born inside the country - irrespective of whether his parents are U.S. citizens

February 15 Consortium Breakfast Meeting

Front row: Kaye Murry, Willa Black Sanders, Dr. Michelle Smith
Back row: Dr. Joe Bates, Quranner “Q” Cotledge, Rep. David Fielding, Vivian Flowers,
Minority Health Consortium in Partnership with the ADH/ Hometown Health Improvement hosted its fifth Legislative Update Breakfast on Tuesday, February 15, 2011 with approximately 30 in attendance.

STAR Health was built on Dr. Tom Bruce’s vision for comprehensive community-based health services.

It has been operating in Chicot, Desha, and Lincoln counties since 2009 due to the high disparities, low socioeconomic status, and lack of resources in the area.

The focus is on building partnerships and mobilizing existing resources to improve the entire community.

Three to five year pilot program, run by grants from a variety of organizations, including AMHC, King Foundation, and March of Dimes.

The three target areas are Maternal health, Chronic Disease, and Dental care

Speakers included Kaye Murry, Hometown Health Initiative Regional Manager who organizes grants and solicits funding and support, Quranner “Q” Cotledge, Hometown Health Initiative Coordinator who works with selected counties and communities and Dr. Joe Bates, Deputy State Health Officer and Chief Science Officer at the Department of Health.

Special thanks to all the Legislators who supported the Legislative Breakfast. Elected Officials in attendance were: Rep. Fred Love, Representative David Fielding, and Representative Efrem Elliot.

### Consortium Legislative Breakfast Forum Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Schedule To Date:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>February 22, 2011</strong> – Arkansas Cancer Coalition-Capitol Hill (<em>note location</em>)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>March 1, 2011</strong> – HIV/AIDS-Capitol Café (Tentative)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>March 8, 2011</strong> - Sickle Cell-Capitol Café (Tentative)</td>
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</tbody>
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- March dates are still available for any member that is interested in hosting a legislative breakfast forum.
- If you are interested in hosting a breakfast, please notify Pamela Hayes at pamela.hayes@arkansas.gov to schedule a date.

### Senate & House Public Health, Welfare and Labor Committee Meetings

**House Public Health, Welfare and Labor Committee** – Every Tuesday and Thursday at 10 am in Rm 130

**Senate Public Health, Welfare and Labor Committee** – Every Wednesday and some Friday at 10 am in Rm 272

*(Note: Senate Public Health Committee may not meet every Friday; therefore, please check schedule weekly and we will keep you abreast of whether any meeting(s) have been cancelled).*
If you are interested in speaking at any committee meeting, please contact Legislative Bureau to request adding your name to the agenda.

Public Health Bill Updates:

- Pamela Hayes is monitoring all bills that have been filed daily.
- You will receive a summary of legislation in weekly emails regarding any bills that may impact the consortium.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SB 98</td>
<td>Senator D. Wyatt amended and re-referred to Senate Committee. An act to authorize advanced practice nurses to enter into collaborative agreements with area health education centers; and for other purposes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB119</td>
<td>Senator Chesterfield passed House committee. An act to create the commission on the status of women; and for other purposes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>SB 65</td>
<td>Senator J. Jeffress amended and re-referred to Senate Committee. An act to improve enrollment of Arkansas children in the Arkids First A and B medical assistance programs; and for other purposes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>SB113</td>
<td>Amended by Senator Bledsoe. An act to prohibit health insurance exchange policies from offering coverage for abortions except through a separate rider.</td>
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<tr>
<td>SB 43</td>
<td>Passed House committee. Senators D. Johnson, P. Malone, Crumbly. An act to authorize physicians and nurses to apply fluoride varnish to a child's teeth after appropriate training.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB165</td>
<td>Passed House Committee. D. Johnson. An act to clarify the licensure process for dentists and registered dental hygienists and to remove obsolete language regarding licensure testing.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SB77  passed Senate Committee  
J. Taylor  
HONOR PERSONS WHO HAVE PROVIDED LIVING KIDNEY DONATIONS TO ARKANSANS IN NEED OF KIDNEY TRANSPLANTATION.

HB1317  passed House Committee  
Rep. Tyler  
AN ACT TO EXPAND THE IMMUNIZATION REGISTRY TO BETTER PROTECT THE CITIZENS OF ARKANSAS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

HB1428  
Rep. Hutchinson  
TO REQUIRE CHILD-ONLY INDIVIDUAL HEALTH INSURANCE POLICIES AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

HB1247  
Rep. Wilkins  
AN ACT TO ENSURE THE CONSTITUTIONALITY OF EXEMPTIONS FROM THE REQUIREMENTS TO TEST NEWBORN INFANTS AND FROM THE REQUIREMENTS TO IMMUNIZE NURSING HOME RESIDENTS.

- If any consortium member has: (a) an event scheduled; (b) legislation filed; (c) presentation before committee; (d) legislation coming up for a vote in committee or House/Senate; (e) press conference; (f) or news to share…please forward information to Pamela Hayes at pamela.hayes@arkansas.gov.
- We will place information on master calendar, AMHC website and AMHC facebook page.
- If you have any questions, suggestions or concerns, please don’t hesitate to call Kendal Booker at 501.563.0731, or email kbooker00@yahoo.com.

**Update from our Members**

News from Arkansas Cancer Coalition

**HHI USES STAR POWER TO IMPROVE HEALTH**  
By Billy Parrish  
Coalition members may remember a moment at last year’s annual Arkansas Cancer Summit when Anna Huff, presenting on the successes of the Mid Delta Community Consortium, provided key insights on how to transform behaviors in the Arkansas Delta.
Kaye Murry, Dr. Joseph Bates, and Quranner "Q" Cotledge discuss STAR.Health at the State Capitol.

For more information on STAR.Health, visit ADH’s website at [http://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programsServices/hometownHealth/Pages/StarHealth.aspx](http://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programsServices/hometownHealth/Pages/StarHealth.aspx)

**News from Arkansas Minority Health Commission**

AMHC also hosted a Health Fair and Gospel Concert for the National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day in El Dorado.

Volunteer at Health Fair

Front Row: Twinkie Clark, Idonia Trotter
Back Row: Patricia Minor

Dr. Idonia Trotter traveled to El Dorado last week for an interview about the HIV/AIDS epidemic affecting Blacks in Union County. The story aired Monday evening. Click the link to watch the story HIV-AIDS in El Dorado [http://myarklamiss.com/fulltext?nxd_id=81976](http://myarklamiss.com/fulltext?nxd_id=81976)