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The Bavarian State Parliament's Committees



Many citizens associate the term “Bavarian State Parliament“ with the image of a plenary session in a plenary chamber. However, the standing committees that are appointed for the duration of the electoral term are just as important to the parliamentary work. Each of the currently 14 standing committees is responsible for one area of politics that its members specialise in. They advise on bills and motions and submit recommendations for a resolution. As a result, the committees prepare the content for the plenary session's meetings and decisions.

The committees can request the presence of any member of the state government at their meetings. State government members and their officers have access to committee meetings and must be heard at any time. The committees also deal with petitions and complaints from citizens and take a final vote on these.

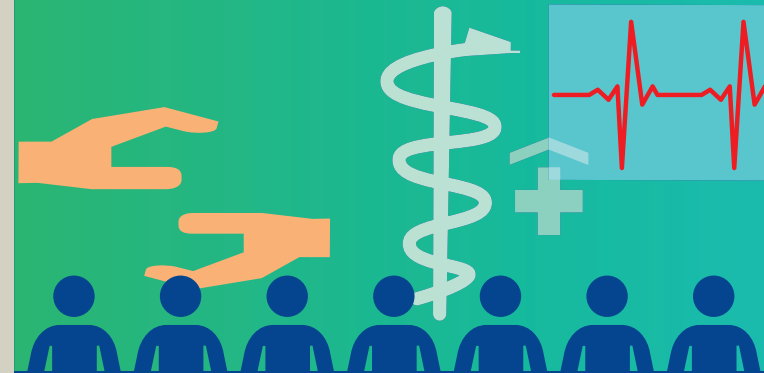
All of the Bavarian State Parliament's parliamentary groups are represented on the committees, which have 14, 18 or 21 members depending on their field. At the same time, the political majorities on the committee must correspond to those in the Bavarian State Parliament's plenary. The committee chairmanships are also distributed across the parliamentary groups based on relative strength. The parliamentary groups then decide internally which member of Parliament they delegate to a committee and who should take over the chairmanship or vice chairmanship, as necessary. The committees generally hold public meetings.

Publisher
The Bavarian State Parliament
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Last updated: February 2024
19th electoral term (2023–2028)

19
Electoral Term



Committee on Health, Care and Prevention



**Bayerischer
Landtag**

The Committee on Health, Care and Prevention



Chairman: Bernhard Seidenath (CSU)
Vice Chairwoman: Ruth Waldmann (SPD)

Duties

18 members of Parliament in total belong to the Committee on Health, Care and Prevention: eight CSU members, three members each from FREIE WÄHLER (FW), AfD and ALLIANCE 90/THE GREENS (GRU) and one SPD member.

The topics of health, care and prevention concern us all in very different ways. The demographic change in our society means that people are getting older. Increased life expectancy is also associated with the need for good, needs-based medical care, but also for medical specialists. At the same time, medical progress is accelerating, for example through digitalisation. This results in many tasks that should also be taken into account politically.

The remit of the expert committee essentially corresponds to the area of activity of the Bavarian State Ministry of Health, Care and Prevention, whose work the committee also accompanies and monitors.

The topics range from medical care to preventive healthcare, the situation of the healthcare professions, medical rehabilitation, palliative care, mental illness, medical technology, the hospital system and issues relating to health insurance and the healthcare industry.

The best illness is one that does not develop in the first place. Prevention is therefore all about preventing illness: Through conscious living, strengthening health skills or even vaccinations.

In the area of care, the committee deals with care insurance, the state care allowance, long-term and short-term care, the situation in retirement and care homes, hospices, the care professions and the concerns of family carers.

In addition to its legislative activities, the committee addresses individual health and care policy issues that are of particular importance to people in the Free State of Bavaria on the basis of existing applications.

Current topics include hospital reform, medical care in rural areas and the situation of care for older citizens, as well as improving the general conditions for the care professions in general.

The committee organises expert hearings to prepare decisions and is also in constant dialogue with associations and interest groups. Additionally the committee discusses and decides on petitions from citizens that fall within its area of expertise.

Meetings

The meetings always take place on Tuesdays during sitting weeks. They are convened and chaired by the chairman. Besides the committee members and head of the committee office, state government representatives responsible for the specific agenda items also attend.

With important political issues, responsible members of the government are also present. The Bavarian State Parliament's shorthand writers' service documents the meetings.