

Eccleston, Susan M.

From: Bruni, Kathy A. (DSS)
Sent: Tuesday, August 09, 2011 11:05 AM
To: Eccleston, Susan M.
Subject: RE: Governor's Office Request -- Executive Orders Related to Personal Care Attendants and Family Child Care Providers

No I don't have concerns about your comments, those comments are still valid.

kathy

From: Eccleston, Susan M.
Sent: Tuesday, August 09, 2011 10:10 AM
To: Bruni, Kathy A. (DSS)
Subject: RE: Governor's Office Request -- Executive Orders Related to Personal Care Attendants and Family Child Care Providers

Thanks Kathy. Do you have any concerns with the comments we provided in our original bill write-up of sHB 6486 (file 359)? Thanks.

The Governor's budget for the Department of Social Services includes \$25.1 million in FY 12 and \$27.2 million in FY 13 for the PCA waiver. If we were to assume a modest 5% increase as a result of collective bargaining provisions, then the state would experience additional costs of \$1.3 million in FY 12 and \$2.7 million in FY 13. If we were to assume a 20% increase in wages and added benefits, the state would incur additional costs of \$5.0 million in FY 12 and \$6.4 million in FY 13. These funds are not included in the Governor's budget. Under the PCA waiver, depending on the individual's needs, the cost of care cannot exceed 60% (2 activities of daily living (ADLs)), 80% (3 to 4 ADLs) or 100% (5 ADLs) of the cost of nursing home care. Thus, if wage and benefit increases occur and cost caps remain constant, some consumers will not have enough hours to stay in the community or, under Money Follows the Person, to transition to the community. In fact, individuals with higher needs could be forced into a nursing home. This will result in a greater cost to the state not only due to the cost of the nursing home placement but also because the slot under the PCA waiver will be refilled due to the program's waiting list.

In addition to the PCA waiver, individuals under the Connecticut Home Care Program for Elders (both the state-funded and Medicaid programs) are eligible for PCA services when it is a cost effective alternative to providing home health, homemaker and companion services. Cost effectiveness is determined on an individual basis. This cost effectiveness determination will be impacted when the cost for PCA services increases as a result of providing collective bargaining. Of the approximately 240 individuals utilizing PCA under the CHCPE, some will have fewer hours of care available to them as a result of an increased hourly PCA wage.

From: Bruni, Kathy A. (DSS)
Sent: Tuesday, August 09, 2011 7:37 AM
To: Eccleston, Susan M.
Subject: FW: Governor's Office Request -- Executive Orders Related to Personal Care Attendants and Family Child Care Providers

Sue:
This is the summary that heather put together from all of our comments here. Please let me know if you need anything further. Thanks.

kathy
