



COLORADO

**Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing**

Department of Health Care Policy and Financing
1570 Grant Street
Denver, CO 80203

July 1, 2017

The Honorable Kent Lambert, Chair
Joint Budget Committee
200 East 14th Avenue, Third Floor
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Senator Lambert:

The Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (the Department) provides the following update to the Joint Budget Committee regarding the development of a single Medicaid waiver for home and community-based services for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities per Section 25.5-6-409.3(4), C.R.S.:

The state department shall notify the Joint Budget Committee no later than June 1, 2016, if the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has not approved a single consolidated Medicaid waiver for home and community-based services for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. If the state department has not received approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services by July 1, 2016, the Joint Budget Committee shall establish a notification and review process relating to the status of the pending waiver consolidation process.

Since the update submitted in April 2017, the Department has continued progress across all components of waiver redesign and Section 25.5-6-409.3(4).

The Department continues to benefit from the Waiver Implementation Council's (the Council) ongoing consultation and advice throughout the waiver design and implementation process. On May 22nd, 2017, the Department hosted a quarterly meeting of the Council. Council members provided feedback on draft service and coverage standards, which define the waiver service specifications, provider qualifications, and conditions of coverage.

The Department has also developed three Council subcommittees, assigned to the topics of Quality, Settings Rule, and Rates. The Department has hosted six subcommittee meetings, meeting with each across April and again over June. The Department has also developed an online forum through which Council members provide further input and review the Department's research and live updates to the service and coverage standard. Background information, meeting materials, and a complete Council membership list are available on the [Council's webpage](#).

The Department has made significant progress analyzing the breadth of fiscal, operational, and programmatic impacts of a redesigned waiver. The Department has nearly finished developing

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models for quality measures, provider qualifications, service utilization forecasts, and individualized budgets with norm-referenced service limits.

The Department's target date for waiver submission to CMS remains January 1, 2018 with an anticipated effective date of January 1, 2019.

If you require further information or have additional questions, please contact the Department's Legislative Liaison, Zach Lynkiewicz, at zach.lynkiewicz@state.co.us or 720-854-9882.

Sincerely,



Susan E. Birch, MBA, BSN, RN
Executive Director

SEB/jkn

cc: Representative Millie Hammer, Vice-chair, Joint Budget Committee
Representative Bob Rankin, Joint Budget Committee
Representative Dave Young, Joint Budget Committee
Senator Kevin Lundberg, Joint Budget Committee
Senator Dominick Moreno, Joint Budget Committee
Megan Davisson, Joint Budget Committee Analyst
Bettina Schneider, Budget Analyst, Office of State Planning and Budgeting
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