



The Honorable Dianne Primavera, Chair
Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
200 East Colfax, Room 271
Denver, CO 80203

December 28, 2015

Dear Representative Primavera:

Below please find information concerning the legislative report to the House Public Health Care and Human Services Committee from the Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) and Department of Revenue on the Property Tax, Rent, Heat Rebate (PTC) Outreach.

Section 39-31-103 (3)(a) C.R.S. (2014) requires the Department to report by July 1, 2015 and every odd-numbered year thereafter on the outreach conducted for this rebate.

The department shall include a description of:

- (I.) The types of outreach undertaken by the department;
- (II.) The success of the outreach as measured by public participation, including the participation by eligible members of racial and ethnic minority populations, or other indicators that the department can evaluate;
- (III.) Any recommendations for statutory changes that would help under improve program participation; and
- (IV.) Any other recommendations related to the grants made under this article.

Please accept this letter with my apology for the delay in responding to this statutory requirement.

Since August 2013, the Department has increased outreach for PTC participation using existing resources. Outreach activities included:

1. County training - CDHS trained county Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP), Old Age Pension (OAP), and Aid to the Needy Disabled (AND) eligibility workers on the PTC program eligibility requirements and how to refer clients to the program in fall of 2013 and 2014. This included training curriculum and ongoing communications with workers such as newsletters, webinars, and regular networking meetings.
2. Distribution of materials - LEAP and the Adult Financial programs (OAP and AND) distributed the PTC informational flier to community partners and county departments of human services.
3. Inclusion of PTC in LEAP Media Campaign - information on the PTC is included in LEAP's 2013-14 and 2014-15 annual seasonal kick-off press release. The release was picked up by both print and television media.
4. Inclusion of PTC on LEAP program materials - information sheets describing how to apply for the PTC was included with the 2013-14 and 2014-15 LEAP applications.



5. Mailing of PTC application to OAP recipients - in 2013-14 sent a PTC application to all OAP recipients, CDHS and DOR matched each agency's data to determine which OAP recipients have not already received an application and sent an application directly to those that have not received one.

In addition to the above activities, CDHS and DOR are working closely with partner agency the Piton Foundation in their tax preparation assistance efforts.

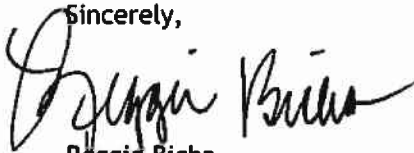
Despite increased outreach, the number of participants and the amount paid in rebates have not increased.

Property Tax and Heat Rebate Data			
Rebates*	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
Total Refunds/Credits	\$6,874,010	\$6,086,470	\$5,746,231
Total Returns	20,878	19,395	18,267
Average Credit	\$329	\$314	\$315

*Source is Department of Revenue Office of Research and Analysis.

If you require further information or have additional questions, please contact the Department's Legislative Liaison, Lauren Lambert Schreier, lauren.schreier@state.co.us or 303-866-3019.

Sincerely,



Reggie Bicha
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Representative Jonathan Singer, Vice-Chair of the Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Kathleen Conti, Member, House Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Jessie Danielson, Member, House Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Justin Everett, Member, House Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Joann Ginal, Member, House Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Janak Joshi, Member, House Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Lois Landgraf, Member, House Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Dominick Moreno, Member, House Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Brittany Pettersen, Member, House Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Lang Sias, Member, House Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Max Tyler, Member, House Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative JoAnn Windholz, Member, House Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
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Katie Griego, Director, Division of Employment and Benefits

