

BUDGET REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

Minutes of the 3rd Meeting of the 2023 Interim

September 20, 2023

Call to Order and Roll Call

The 3rd meeting of the Budget Review Subcommittee on Health and Family Services was held on September 20, 2023, at 10:30 AM in Room 149 of the Capitol Annex. Senator Donald Douglas, Chair, called the meeting to order, and the secretary called the roll.

Present were:

Members: Senator Donald Douglas Co-Chair; Representative Danny Bentley Co-Chair; Senators Karen Berg, and Lindsey Tichenor; Representatives Samara Heavrin, Adam Bowling, Ken Fleming, and Lisa Willner.

Guests: Steve Bechtel, Chief Financial Officer, Department for Medicaid Services, Cabinet for Health and Family Services; Veronica Judy-Cecil, Deputy Commissioner, Department for Medicaid Services, Cabinet for Health and Family Services

LRC Staff: Miriam Fordham, Kevin Newton, and Benjamin Thompson.

Approval of Minutes

Representative Heavrin moved to approve the minutes from the June 7 and July 10 meetings of the subcommittee. Representative Bentley seconded the motion and the minutes were approved without objection.

Medicaid Budget Update: Fiscal Year 2023 Year-End Report and Fiscal Year 2024 Outlook

Mr. Bechtel and Ms. Judy-Cecil provided an update on the Department for Medicaid Services.

In response to questions from Representative Bentley, Mr. Bechtel confirmed that drug rebates for state fiscal year 2023 were approximately \$1.5 billion. Ms. Judy-Cecil noted that a reduction in expenditures does not necessarily equate as a possible revenue source. Ms. Judy-Cecil stated that emergency medical services are reimbursed as part of the Ambulance Provider Reimbursement Program with emphasis on treatment, triage, and transport.

In response to questions from Representative Fleming, Ms. Judy-Cecil noted that the triage portion of the Ambulance Provider Reimbursement Program covers services performed upon arrival to the emergent event. Ms. Judy-Cecil noted that most reimbursement increases are targeted, rather than across the board increases.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the subcommittee, the meeting was adjourned at 11:24 AM.