

BUDGET REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

Minutes of the 4th Meeting of the 2023 Interim

October 18, 2023

Call to Order and Roll Call

The 4th meeting of the Budget Review Subcommittee on Health and Family Services was held on October 18, 2023, at 10:30 AM in Room 129 of the Capitol Annex. Representative Danny Bentley, Chair, called the meeting to order, and the secretary called the roll.

Present were:

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

Guests: Jeb Duke, Chief Executive Officer, Humana Healthy Horizons; Liz Stearman, Director, Behavioral Health, Humana Healthy Horizons; Talley Russell, Director, Government Affairs, Humana; Evan C. Reinhardt, J.D., M.B.A., Executive Director, Kentucky Home Care Association

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

Approval of Minutes

Senator Douglas made the motion to approve the minutes from the September 20, 2023, meeting of the subcommittee. Senator Berg seconded the motion and the minutes were approved without objection.

Medicaid Reimbursement for Substance Use Disorder Treatment Services

Mr. Duke, Ms. Stearman, and Ms. Russell provided testimony regarding Medicaid reimbursement for substance use disorder treatment.

In response to questions from Senator Berg, Mr. Duke said that those members with substance use disorder could be placed into a separate premium category by identifying the underlying diagnoses when the members seek care.

In response to a question from Representative Bowling, Mr. Duke noted that Humana had not had contact with providers regarding the proposed changes to reimbursements to substance use disorder treatment services.

In response to a question from Senator Douglass, Mr. Duke confirmed that Humana's proposal would have no impact on the state Medicaid budget. Ms. Stearman stated that Humana relies on claims data to identify members with substance use disorder, meaning that members who have not sought care would not be included in any reporting.

In response to a question from Representative Fleming, Mr. Duke said that he believes there is reason for providers to support Humana's request due to adverse impacts the current structure has on provider payments.

In response to a question from Representative Moser, Mr. Duke noted that there are already various premium cohorts, though not specifically for those with substance use disorder.

Medicaid Reimbursement for Home Health Services

Mr. Reinhardt provided testimony regarding Medicaid reimbursement for home health services.

In response to a question from Senator Berg, Mr. Reinhardt noted that those individuals who perform home health services are required to be a Registered Nurse.

In response to a question from Senator Tichenor, Mr. Reinhardt stated that the Kentucky Home Care Association was requesting a fifty percent increase in the reimbursement rate for home health services.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the subcommittee, the meeting was adjourned at 11:48 AM.