

INTERIM JOINT COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS & REVENUE

Budget Review Subcommittee on Human Resources

Minutes of the 3rd Meeting of the 2022 Interim

September 21, 2022

Call to Order and Roll Call

The 3rd meeting of the Budget Review Subcommittee on Human Resources of the Interim Joint Committee on Appropriations & Revenue was held on Wednesday, September 21, 2022, 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: Senator Stephen Meredith, Co-Chair; Representative Danny Bentley, Co-Chair; Senators Ralph Alvarado, Karen Berg, and Danny Carroll; Representatives Adam Bowling, Deanna Frazier Gordon, Kimberly Poore Moser, Russell Webber, and Susan Westrom.

Guests: Lisa Lee, Commissioner, Department for Medicaid Services (DMS), Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS); and Steve Bechtel, Chief Financial Officer, DMS, CHFS

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

Approval of Minutes

Senator Alvarado made the motion to approve the minutes of the August 17, 2022 meeting of the subcommittee. Senator Meredith seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved without objection.

Medicaid Budget Update: Fiscal Year 2022 Year-End Report and Fiscal Year 2023 Outlook

Commissioner Lee and Mr. Bechtel provided an overview of the Medicaid budget.

In response to a question from Chair Bentley, Mr. Bechtel noted that the Department for Medicaid Services (DMS) would begin working on cost and enrollment projections for 2023 in October of 2022 and expects those projections to be ready sometime in November.

In response to a question from Representative Frazier Gordon, Commissioner Lee stated that the DMS had not begun work on an assisted living waiver.

In response to questions from Senator Carroll, Commissioner Lee said that DMS anticipates a study on reimbursement rates to be completed in November, 2022. Commissioner Lee confirmed that over half of the children in Kentucky are on Medicaid. Commissioner Lee noted that Oldham County is the only county in Kentucky with lower than five percent of the population enrolled in Medicaid.

In response to questions from Senator Alvarado, Mr. Bechtel noted the DMS had anticipated the expanded Medicaid population to fall off of the rolls in March of 2022, but the federal government extended the state of emergency for COVID-19.

In response to questions from Representative Moser, Commissioner Lee said that twelve month continuous eligibility for Medicaid enrollees is one option that the federal government allows, but is not a requirement. Some states use the 12 month continuous eligibility option for certain populations, such as children. Commissioner Lee confirmed that an individual will be disenrolled from Medicaid if their pay exceeds the set limit.

There being no further business before the subcommittee, the meeting was adjourned at 11:53 AM.