

**CONDITIONAL
STATE FISCAL IMPACT**

Drafting Number: LLS 10-0390
Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. Acree
 Sen. Mitchell

Date: January 28, 2010
Bill Status: House Health and Human Services
Fiscal Analyst: Janis Baron (303-866-3523)

TITLE: CONCERNING APPLICATIONS FOR HOME- AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES WAIVERS FOR CHILDREN AS PART OF THE MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY MODERNIZATION.

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2010-2011	FY 2011-2012*
State Revenue		
State Expenditures* Multiple Funding Sources		
FTE Position Change		
Effective Date: August 11, 2010, assuming the General Assembly adjourns May 12, 2010, as scheduled and no referendum petition is filed.		
Appropriation Summary for FY 2010-2011: None required.		
Local Government Impact: None		

** The bill is permissive. The Department of Health Care Policy and Financing indicates it is not likely to implement the bill in FY 2010-11. If the department chooses to exercise the authority granted in HB10-1041, it will do so through the annual budget process. Costs will be incurred in the fiscal year that the department seeks funding.*

Summary of Legislation

This bill is recommended by the Interim Committee on the Developmental Disability Waiting List. It authorizes the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing to create a universal application or single point of entry for Home- and Community-based Services (HCBS) waivers for children as part of Medicaid eligibility modernization.

Background

The Colorado Eligibility Modernization Project aims to:

- increase enrollment and retention;
- implement an easier application process for health care programs;
- reduce application processing times;
- increase administrative efficiencies and reduce administrative costs;
- ease workload burden on eligibility workers; and
- leverage existing technologies (eliminate paper).

To date, the legislature has appropriated about \$4.6 million for systems changes to the Colorado Benefits Management System (CBMS) to meet the goals of this effort. Additionally, the department has been awarded federal grants for several projects, including eligibility modernization. As a result of this funding, a single online application for the Children's Basic Health Plan and Medicaid services for children and families was developed, costing about \$50,000.

State Expenditures

All moneys currently appropriated and awarded for eligibility modernization are earmarked for activities other than those authorized in this bill. In order, ongoing funding is dedicated to Medicaid services for families and children in early 2010, adults in late 2010, and person receiving long-term care in 2011.

The department indicates that it has not researched either a universal application for clients enrolled in HCBS waiver programs or standardization of the single entry point system. Because the bill is permissive, it is not intending to pursue either of these activities in FY 2010-11. Should the department move forward with either project at a future date, it will go through the annual budget process. Costs associated with research, computer systems, and an eventual end product/process are not quantified.

Departments Contacted

Health Care Policy and Financing

Human Services