

AHCCCS Legislative Update 6/20/08

SB1133 AHCCCS; DES; new hires directory (Senator Leff)

SB1133 codifies federal law authorizing AHCCCS to utilize information housed in the New Hire Directory at the Department of Economic Security to verify the eligibility of Title XIX applicants and enrollees.

Signed into law 04/28/08; Laws 2008, Chapter 79

SB1223 insurance; long-term care (Senator Allen)

SB1223 implements the statutory requirements of the Deficit Reduction Act allowing the State to enter into Long-Term Care Partnership Programs with the private insurance industry. Under the auspices of the Long-Term Care Partnership Program, individuals will be permitted to purchase long-term care insurance in the private market and then disregard the amount of the private benefit paid for the purpose of income eligibility in the event that the individual reaches the benefit cap on the private policy and chooses to apply for Medicaid.

Signed into law 05/20/08; Laws 2008, Chapter 230

SB1329 AHCCCS; self-directed care services (Senator Allen)

SB1329 permits qualified long-term care members who are enrolled in home and community-based services to hire an approved attendant caregiver (e.g. neighbor or friend) to provide skilled attendant care services and obtain reimbursement through AHCCCS. The legislation requires AHCCCS to work with the Board of Nursing to determine what services would be permitted under the Self-Directed Care program and additionally requires the Agency to report to the Governor and the Legislature in 2011 on the utilization of the program.

Signed into law 04/21/08; Laws 2008, Chapter 58

SB1418 AHCCCS; tobacco cessation medication; coverage (Senator Leff)

SB1418 authorizes AHCCCS and its contractors to offer nicotine replacement therapies and tobacco use medications to AHCCCS members. AHCCCS and ADHS will be entering into intergovernmental agreement to leverage funds from the Tobacco Education and Prevention Account (TEPP) in order to draw down federal matching monies to fund the increased capitation to the health plans.

Signed into law 04/29/08- Laws 2008, Chapter 131