

1570 Grant Street Denver, CO 80203

2025 HCPF Legislative Agenda Overview

January 2025

HB25-1003 Children with Complex Health Needs Waiver

This bill would merge the Children's Home and Community-Based Services (CHCBS) waiver with the Children with Life Limiting Illness (CLLI) waiver, and create a new waiver called the Children with Complex Health Needs waiver (CwCHN). The purpose of the CwCHN waiver is to streamline home and community based services for children's waiver programs, expand access to services, and ensure current and future CHCBS members have continued access to waiver services.

Administrative Remedies Prior to RAC Audit Appeals

This potential Joint Budget Committee sponsored bill would implement recommendations from the Office of the State Auditor's recent Evaluation of the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy & Financing's Medicaid Recovery Audit Contractor Program. The recommendations provide opportunities both HCPF and providers can take to improve the program's efficiency and balance the need for accountability with a reasonable level of administrative burden.

HB25-1033 Medicaid Third Party Liability Federal Compliance

To ensure compliance with federal law, this bill would bar liable third-party payers from refusing to reimburse the Medicaid program for an item or service solely on the basis of no prior authorization, and requires third party payers to timely respond to the Department's requests for the 10% of members that have commercial coverage. This bill will help ensure that state taxpayer dollars do not cover services that should be paid by the member's commercial health plan.

Medicaid Waiver Reinvestment Cash Fund



Continuation of the Complementary and Integrative Services Waiver - Fiscal Impact

This bill would make the <u>Complementary and Integrative Services Waiver Pilot Program</u>, created by <u>HB20-1221</u>, a permanent waiver program. This current pilot program provides acupuncture, chiropractic care and massage therapy to eligible members living with a spinal cord injury, multiple sclerosis, a brain injury, spina bifida, muscular dystrophy, or cerebral palsy with the inability for independent ambulation. Once made permanent, the members currently receiving services as part of the pilot waiver will maintain their access to these important services. This proposal is the companion bill to HCPF's budget request R-11 Office of Community Living Benefits.

Medicaid Financing Reductions - Fiscal Impact

HCPF proposes implementing two initiatives to help balance the FY 2025-26 budget:

- Repeal outdated cash funds and use the remaining balances to offset General Fund
- 2. Move the Medicaid Buy-In cash fund to the Colorado Healthcare Affordability and Sustainability Enterprise (CHASE), which is TABOR exempt.

These initiatives would reduce the need for General Fund to balance the FY 2025-26 budget with no impact on Medicaid members or providers.

This bill would move the Medicaid Buy-In cash fund into the TABOR exempt Colorado Healthcare Affordability and Sustainability Enterprise (CHASE) statute. This proposal is the companion bill to HCPF's budget request R-16 Medicaid Financing Reductions.



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