



Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee

January 14, 2014
9:00 AM—Noon
Webster Hall

Action Packet

Committee Meeting Notice
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee

Start Date and Time: Tuesday, January 14, 2014 09:00 am
End Date and Time: Tuesday, January 14, 2014 12:00 pm
Location: Webster Hall (212 Knott)
Duration: 3.00 hrs

Overview of the Florida Poison Information Center Network

Overview of the Comprehensive Statewide Tobacco Prevention and Education Program

Overview of the Medicaid Home Health Rate Structure

NOTICE FINALIZED on 01/07/2014 15:34 by LAL

COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT
Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee
1/14/2014 9:00:00AM

Location: Webster Hall (212 Knott)

Summary: No Bills Considered

Committee meeting was reported out: Tuesday, January 14, 2014 11:57:10AM

COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT
Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee

1/14/2014 9:00:00AM

Location: Webster Hall (212 Knott)

Attendance:

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Excused</i>
Matt Hudson (Chair)	X		
Jason Brodeur	X		
Neil Combee	X		
Janet Cruz	X		
Jose Diaz	X		
Matt Gaetz	X		
Walter Hill	X		
MaryLynn Magar			X
Jared Moskowitz	X		
Amanda Murphy	X		
David Richardson			X
Elaine Schwartz	X		
John Wood	X		
Totals:	11	0	2

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COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT
Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee

1/14/2014 9:00:00AM

Location: Webster Hall (212 Knott)

Presentation/Workshop/Other Business Appearances:

Florida Poison Information Center Network

Schauben, Jay - Information Only

Florida Poison Information Network

655 West 8th Street

Jacksonville FL 32250

Phone: (904) 224-4465

Medicaid Home Health Rate Structure

Senior, Justin (Lobbyist) (State Employee) (At Request Of Chair) - Information Only

Agency for Health Care Administration

2727 Mahan Dr

Tallahassee FL 32308

Phone: (850) 412-3626

Overview of Medicaid Home Health Rate Structure

Lipson, Christopher (Lobbyist) (General Public) - Information Only

The Home Care Association of Florida

1363 E. Lafayette St. Suite A

Tallahassee FL 32301

Phone: (305) 222-8967

Overview of Medicaid Home Health Rate Structure

Wilkie, Steve (General Public) - Information Only

Tallahassee FL

Overview of Medicaid Home Health Rate Structure

Lavoie, Cindy (General Public) - Information Only

Interim HealthCare of NW FL, Inc.

1962B Village Green Way

Tallahassee FL 32308

Private Duty Nursing/In-home Care

Baggett, Fred (Lobbyist) - Information Only

Maxim Health Care/PSA Health Care

101 East College Ave

Tallahassee FL

Phone: (850) 425-8512

Tobacco Free Florida

Armstrong, John (Lobbyist) (State Employee) - Information Only

State Surgeon General/Department of Health

2585 Merchants Row Boulevard

Tallahassee FL 32399

Phone: (850) 245-4006

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**Testimony to House of Representatives Health Care Appropriations
Subcommittee – January 13, 2014**

BAYADA Home Health Care is the nation's largest privately-held home health care provider, operating in 22 states including eight offices in Central Florida. Since 1975, BAYADA health care professionals have provided cost-effective, high quality care to our clients in the preferred setting — at home.

BAYADA provides care to more than 750 Floridians every day, including the poorest, sickest Floridians who receive state-funded care. Although BAYADA serves Florida Medicaid recipients, BAYADA is not a Medicaid-certified provider through the Agency for Health Care Administration. In fact, of the more than 2,200 licensed home health care agencies in Florida, just over 40, or three percent, are Medicaid-certified due to low reimbursement for traditional Medicaid services. Medicaid rates for home health care services have not increased since 1987, which has resulted in providers being unable to care for this population and still make ends meet, and leaving more than three million Florida Medicaid recipients to receive home and community-based services almost entirely through the state's multiple waiver programs.

Since 1987, the state has paid a registered nurse (RN) \$31.04ⁱ per visit to provide skilled care to a Medicaid patient at home. For a licensed practical nurse (LPN), the state pays \$26.19ⁱⁱ per visit. According to the Home Care Association of Florida 2013 Salary & Benefits Report, the average compensation per-visit for RNs and LPNs is \$37.42 and \$26.70, respectively. Before the clinician enters the home to provide care for a Medicaid recipient, the provider has already lost \$6.38 on an RN visit and 51 cents on an LPN visit.ⁱⁱⁱ Beyond this inability for an agency to break even when sending a nurse into a Medicaid recipient's home, providers also have to factor in indirect costs, such as licensing fees, accreditation, orientation, background screening, worker's compensation, unemployment insurance, competency testing, and continuing education. Further, the Affordable Care Act's employer mandate is certain to have a significant financial impact on home health care providers.

In closing, as the state seeks to reduce its Medicaid expenditures while maintaining high quality care for recipients, I urge you to take into consideration the findings of a recent AARP report: the Medicaid program can serve three seniors or adults with physical disabilities at home for the cost of one in a skilled nursing facility.^{iv} In order to ensure that home health care is a viable alternative to institutional care, Medicaid providers must receive adequate reimbursement for services. The State should look to home health care as the answer for controlling costs and maintaining quality care in the patient's preferred setting.

Should you have questions regarding in-home nursing services or about BAYADA, please contact me at (407) 520-6944 or via email at ksimon@bayada.com.

ⁱ http://portal.flmmis.com/FLPublic/Portals/0/StaticContent/Public/HANDBOOKS/Home_Health_Services_Handbook_March_2013.pdf

ⁱⁱ http://portal.flmmis.com/FLPublic/Portals/0/StaticContent/Public/HANDBOOKS/Home_Health_Services_Handbook_March_2013.pdf

ⁱⁱⁱ <http://www.homecarefla.org/associations/1885/files/2013%20Home%20Care%20Agency%20Salary%20and%20Benefits%20Report%20FINAL.pdf>