

**Testimony**  
**Engrossed Senate Bill 2077 – Department of Human Services**  
**House Human Services Committee**  
**Representative Weisz, Chairman**  
**March 7, 2011**

Chairman Weisz, members of the House Human Services Committee, I am Karen Tescher, Assistant Director of the Long-Term Care Continuum in the Medical Services Division of the Department of Human Services. I am here today on behalf of the Department to provide background information on Engrossed Senate Bill 2077. This bill, as amended, will create and enact a new chapter to the Century Code, relating to expanded service payments for the elderly and disabled; and will amend and reenact sections relating to the requirements for basic care assistance eligibility.

Basic care facilities may receive two payments for a public pay client; one for Medicaid personal care and one for room and board. To receive the Medicaid personal care part of the payment, a client must be functionally eligible for the Personal Care program and must be financially eligible to receive Medicaid. Medical Services is responsible for administering this aspect of the payment.

To receive the room and board part of the payment from the Basic Care Assistance Program, the client must be receiving Medicaid and must meet functional requirements. The Economic Assistance Division is responsible for administering the Basic Care Assistance Program.

This bill proposes to require individuals applying for assistance under the Basic Care Assistance Program to apply for and, if eligible, to receive

benefits under the Medicaid program. In addition, page 2 of the bill, lines 1-7, proposes to require individuals to apply for and receive, if eligible, any Supplemental Security Income or Social Security Disability benefits to assist with paying the cost of room and board in a licensed basic care facility. The amendments also propose to remove language regarding stipulations before July 1, 1995, which are no longer applicable.

The bill also adds a new chapter to Title 50 of the Century Code relating to expanded service payments for the elderly and disabled (ExSPED). This chapter is being created to separate ExSPED from the provisions of the Century Code related to basic care. The service eligibility criteria are different from basic care and the separation of the two chapters will assist in administering these two programs. The new chapter more clearly defines the services available under ExSPED, the Department's powers and duties, the counties' powers and duties, and the applicant's or guardian's duty to establish eligibility.

To update the financial eligibility, definitions have been changed throughout the bill.

This concludes my testimony. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.