

Testimony
Senate Bill 2130 – Department of Human Services
House Human Services Committee
Senator Price, Chairman
February 21, 2007

Chairman Price and members of the House Human Services Committee, my name is Paul Ronningen, Director, Children and Family Services with the Department of Human Services. I am here today to present testimony regarding Senate Bill 2130. The Department supports the passage of this bill.

Senate Bill 2130 is primarily a housekeeping bill that addresses the changes in our Medicaid Program. As of July 1st, 2006 Medicaid could no longer make payments to Residential Treatment Centers (RTCs), but could only make payments to Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities (PRTFs). This designation by Medicaid required that each of the six providers obtain accreditation. Once accredited, Medicaid became the sole source of funding for these facilities. Five of the facilities were accredited by July 1, 2006 and the sixth facility was accredited in December 2006.

Some of the housekeeping changes include:

- a) Changing "residential treatment center" to "psychiatric residential treatment facility".
- b) Adding a definition of "child or children" that is consistent with Medicaid policy and thus dropping the word adolescent.
- c) Adding that the facility must meet the requirements set out in title 42, Code of Federal Regulations, part 483-354 which defines the requirements of a Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility.

- d) Clarifies that the facility develops an individualized post-discharge plan and coordinates this plan with the child's parents, school and community.

Finally, the expiration date on the moratorium section in this bill (75-03.2-03.1) has been over struck to avoid a potential conflict between this bill and the moratorium bill SB 2066. The Department is requesting that the moratorium continue in SB 2066 and thus the continuation of the moratorium will be addressed during those hearings.

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