

Testimony
House Bill 1126 – Department of Human Services
Before the Joint Meeting of
House Industry, Business & Labor
Representative Keiser, Chairman
House Appropriations – Government Operations and Human
Resources Divisions
Representatives Thoreson and Pollert, Chairmen
February 1, 2011

Chairmen Keiser, Thoreson and Pollert, members of the Industry, Business & Labor Committee and House Appropriations – Government Operations and Human Resources Divisions, I am Carol Olson, Executive Director of the Department of Human Services. I am here today to provide information to you regarding the relationship between an American Health Benefit Exchange and the programs within Department of Human Services.

If it is the interest of this committee to pursue the establishment of an American Health Benefit Exchange for the state that will meet the requirements as currently outlined in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010, it will be important for this committee to consider the implications of:

- Title I, Section 1311(d)(4)(F) requiring, at a minimum, for the Exchange to provide for eligibility determination and the enrollment of individuals in Medicaid and CHIP programs; and
- Title II Role of Public Programs, Section 2201 which outlines more specifically the requirements of enrollment simplification and Medicaid and CHIP coordination with the State Health Insurance Exchange.

The intent of these sections is to ensure that the American Health Benefit Exchange provide seamless eligibility and enrollment linkages between the exchange coverage options and public assistance programs. In order to achieve this level of interoperability with the Exchange, the Medicaid and CHIP eligibility systems will require significant modification.

I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.