Testimony House Bill 1169 – Department of Human Services House Human Services Committee Representative Robin Weisz, Chairman January 18, 2011

Chairman Weisz, members of the Human Services Committee, I am LeeAnn Thiel, Administrator of Medicaid Payment and Reimbursement Services of the Medical Services Division for the Department of Human Services.

I am not here today to oppose or support HB 1169, but to provide information on the fiscal note. The fiscal impact was calculated based on the allowable education expense reported on the June 30, 2010 nursing facility cost reports. The \$126,528 impact to the Medicaid program and \$120,318 for private pay individuals for the 2011-2013 biennium is for 18 months. Nursing facility rates would be affected beginning January 1, 2012.

In 2009 HB 1307 increased the amount of allowable education expense that a nursing facility may include on its cost report to the lesser of \$3,750 or one-half of the allowable education expense per year or an aggregate of \$15,000 per individual. This bill removes that one-half provision and makes the allowable education expense limit \$3,750 per year per individual. The \$15,000 aggregate limit per individual is unchanged.

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