Testimony House Bill 1309 Government & Veterans Affairs Representative Kasper, Chairman January 24, 2013

Chairman Kasper, members of the Government and Veterans Affairs Committee, I am Marcie Wuitschick, Human Resource Director for the Department of Human Services (Department). I am here today to testify in support of House Bill 1309.

House Bill 1309 as introduced eliminates the reporting requirements established by 2009 House Bill 1029. Department of Human Services' staff spent approximately 400 hours compiling data and preparing the report in the required format for the 2009-2011 biennium. The State's accounting system (PeopleSoft) does not contain the detailed information necessary to meet the reporting requirements of 2009 House Bill 1029; therefore, compiling the data is a very time-consuming process. For example, PeopleSoft contains only payments made to vendors and does not contain detailed information about the payment, such as employee name, etc. Therefore, staff must manually record and compile this required reporting information in another system. Work has begun on the 2011-2013 report, and we anticipate that the required effort will be similar to the previous biennium.

All expenditures of the Department must meet the federal criteria of being necessary and reasonable, as well as follow established Administrative Rules and internal Department policy relative to the items reported. In addition, expenditures are subject to review by the State Auditor's Office to determine compliance with federal requirements as well as State rules and Department policies. The Department supports the passage of House Bill 1309.

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