



OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT & BUDGET

STATE BUDGET OFFICE

Thomas A. Mullaney, Budget Officer

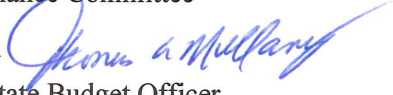
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MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Marvin L. Abney
Chairman, House Finance Committee

The Honorable William J. Conley, Jr.
Chairman, Senate Finance Committee

From: Thomas A. Mullaney 
Executive Director/State Budget Officer

Date: July 23, 2020

Subject: Amendments to Article 14 of the FY 2021 Appropriations Act
(2020 -- H 7171)

The Governor requests that Article 14 entitled "Relating to Medical Assistance" be amended as follows. Section 5, the Rhode Island Medicaid Reform Act of 2008 Resolution, is a joint resolution authorizing the Executive Office of Health and Human Services to amend the Medicaid State Plan, submit formal amendments to the special terms and conditions of Rhode Island's Section 1115 Waiver, update State rules and regulations, and/or modify the terms of managed care contracts.

The Governor's FY 2021 budget also includes expansion of the Department of Health's First Connections program to prenatal women, requiring an amendment to the Medicaid State Plan. The Governor proposes the following amending language to align the Resolution with the Governor's FY 2021 budget recommendation:

Insert the below language immediately following section, (e), "*Increase in the Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals 4 ("BHDDH") Direct Care Service Worker Wages.*":

(f) *Expand First Connections to prenatal women.* To improve the health and development of young children and their families, in collaboration with the Rhode Island Department of Health, the Executive Office proposes to seek federal authority to expand the coverage of First Connections to prenatal, Medicaid eligible women. First Connections is a low intensity, short-term home visiting model delivered through a multidisciplinary team that includes a maternal child health nurse, a social worker and a community health worker, which provides comprehensive assessments, health education and risk reduction counseling, social determinants of health screening and connections with appropriate health and human services and community-based resources as indicated by screening and assessment.

Amendment to Article 14

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Replace (f) on page 387, Line 12, with (g).

If you have any questions regarding this amendment, please feel free to call me at 222-6300.

TAM: 21-Amend-11

cc: Sharon Reynolds Ferland, House Fiscal Advisor

Stephen Whitney, Senate Fiscal Advisor

Courtney Hawkins, Director, Department of Human Services

Womazetta Jones, Secretary, Executive Office of Health and Human Services