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Agency of Human Services

**To: Legislative Committee on Administrative Rulemaking
(LCAR)**
From: Department for Children and Families (DCF)
**Re: 24-P42, General Assistance Emergency Housing
Assistance Rules**
Date: March 26, 2026

DCF submits this memorandum in response to LCAR's request for testimony on General Assistance Emergency Housing Assistance Rule 24-P42. In its request, LCAR indicated it was seeking the following information:

- (1) Why DCF did not file the final rule with the Secretary of State after approval from LCAR;
- (2) The status of the existing rules for the General Assistance Emergency Housing (GA EH) program;
- (3) The authority under which DCF is currently operating the Program; and
- (4) DCF's plan for future rulemaking regarding the Program.

DCF's rationale for not filing the final rule with the Secretary of State after approval from LCAR

LCAR approved the final proposed rule on March 13, 2025. After that approval, the Legislature inserted language into the FY 2026 Appropriations bill that required DCF to apply the General Assistance Emergency Housing rules approved by the Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules on March 13, 2025 for the administration of the GA EH program. Adopting the final proposed rule would have had no practical effect as DCF would be bound to follow the LCAR-approved rules under the legislation. In light of this, adopting the final proposed rule would have incurred unnecessary administrative costs. Therefore, DCF determined that it was no longer necessary to file rules.

The status of the existing rules for the General Assistance Emergency Housing program

There are no adopted rules governing emergency housing assistance for fiscal year 2026. Section E.321(f) of Act 27 directs DCF to "apply the General Assistance Emergency Housing rules approved by the Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules on March 13, 2025 for the administration of this section." Accordingly, the statute incorporates by reference the Rules approved by the Legislature on March 13, 2025, which regulates this program.

The authority under which DCF is currently operating the Program

In accordance with sec. E.321(f) of Act 27, DCF is applying the General Assistance Emergency Housing rules approved by the Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules on March 13, 2025 in its operation of emergency housing assistance.

DCF's plan for future rulemaking regarding the Program

DCF will initiate rulemaking in accordance with future emergency housing assistance legislation.