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APPROPRIATIONS

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MEMORANDUM

To: Rep. Fisher, Chair, House Committee on Health Care
From: Rep. Heath, Chair, House Committee on Appropriations
Date: May 2, 2014
Subject: Third Memo re: Review of Senate Provisions in Budget

As we work our way through the Senate changes to the House passed budget we have found two additional sections that the Health Care committee may want to take a look at. Thank you for all of your help with these issues.

Sec. E.304 3 V.S.A. § 3090(e) is added to read:

(e) On or before January 15 of each year, the Board shall report to the House Committees on Appropriations, on Human Services, and on Health Care and the Senate Committees on Appropriations, on Health and Welfare, and on Finance regarding the fair hearings conducted by the Board during the three preceding calendar years, including:

(1) the total number of fair hearings conducted over the three-year period and per year;

(2) the number of hearings per year involving appeals of decisions by the Agency itself and each department within the Agency, with the appeals and decisions relating to health insurance through the Vermont Health Connect exchange reported distinctly from other programs;

(3) the number of hearings per year based on appeals of decisions regarding:

(A) eligibility;

(B) benefits;

(C) coverage;

(D) financial assistance;

(E) child support; and

(F) other categories of appeals;

(4) the number of hearings per year based on appeals of decisions regarding each State program over which the Board has jurisdiction;

(5) the number of decisions per year made in favor of the appellant; and

(6) the number of decisions per year made in favor of the department or the Agency.

Sec. E.306.6 HUMAN SERVICE PROGRAMS OVERSIGHT PROPOSAL

(a) As part of the January, 2015, report requirement under 2 V.S.A. § 852 (c) the Health Care Oversight Committee shall, in consultation with the Mental Health Oversight Committee, recommend an oversight structure for human service programs funded by the state when the legislature is not in session. Consideration of the membership, scope, powers, duties, and meetings as well as anticipated coordination with the respective legislative standing committees shall be included with the recommendation.