

**From:** Murphy, Kirsten

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 14, 2019 1:28 PM

**To:** William Lippert; Anne Donahue

**Cc:** Annmarie Christensen; Brian Cina; Mari Cordes; David Durfee; Ben Jickling; Woodman Page; Lucy Rogers; Brian Smith

**Subject:** S 7 Version 5.1

Dear Representatives Lippert and Donahue,

Our apologies for contacting you on this very busy week.

The DD Council is concerned about some language in S. 7 (version 5.1) as it emerged from House Human Services this morning.

The concern is in Sec. 1(a)(1) where it reads, "On or before January 1, 2021, the Agency of Human Services, ...shall submit... a plan to coordinate the financing and delivery of Medicaid mental health services and Medicaid home- and community-based services with the all-payer financial target services, including future plans for the integration of long-term care services with the ACO."

The underlined phrase expands substantially beyond the plan originally described by Act 113, and at this late date in the session, there is not enough time to take testimony on broadening the scope of this plan.

You will remember that Act 113 seeks "a plan" connecting Medicaid-funded long term services and supports (MLTSS) with the Accountable Care Organization. However, in this context, the plan is limited to the alignment of the financial targets under the All Payer Accountable Care Model with long term services. Act 113 does not contemplate the integration of actual services in the work of the ACO. Moreover, the word "alignment" is vague, where "integration" seems to imply a higher level of administrative entanglement.

If possible, we suggest a modest revision. Some options would be: (1) to drop the phrase entirely; or (2) to add the word "any" before the words "future plans." The latter was suggested to us by Ena Backus when we sought her advice on this matter.

I hope this helps you to craft the bill that you want to see. Please let us know if we can answer any questions.

Thank you for all your good and hard work this session. Here's to a successful and timely ending!

*Kirsten*

Kirsten Murphy

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*Bringing Vermonters with Developmental Disabilities  
Into the **Heart** of Vermont Communities.*