



IRENE AGUILAR, MD
SENATE DISTRICT 32

STATE CAPITOL BUILDING
200 E. COLFAX AVENUE
DENVER, COLORADO 80203
CAPITOL: (303) 866-4852
CAPITOL FAX: (303) 866-4543

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICE
CHAIR

JUDICIARY
MEMBER

SENATE
STATE OF COLORADO
DENVER

Email: irene.aguilar.senate@state.co.us

ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER

January 24, 2013

Senator Pat Steadman
Chair, Joint Budget Committee
200 East 14th Avenue, Third Floor
Denver, Colorado 80203

Dear Senator Steadman:

The SMART Government Act allows a committee of reference to make formal recommendations to the Joint Budget Committee regarding state departments' budgets, based on the committee's hearings with their assigned departments. The Senate Health and Human Services Committee met on January 23, 2013, to discuss recommendations to the JBC per the SMART Government Act. At its meeting, the committee made the following recommendation regarding the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing's budget.

The committee requests that the Joint Budget Committee encourage the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing to offer Behavioral Health Organization contracts to Regional Care Collaborative Organizations when possible.

Sincerely,

Senator Irene Aguilar, Chair
Senate Health and Human Services Committee

- c: Joint Budget Committee Members
- Senate Health and Human Services Committee Members
- Susan E. Birch, Executive Director, Department of Health Care Policy and Financing
- MaryKathryn Hurd, Legislative Liaison, Department of Health Care Policy and Financing
- John Ziegler, Staff Director, Joint Budget Committee
- Dave DeNovellis, Legislative Council Staff



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The committee requests that the Joint Budget Committee use a portion of the savings from the Division of Youth Corrections to fund a statewide child abuse reporting hotline with enhanced training and competency assessments for the frontline staff of the hotline.

The committee requests that the Joint Budget Committee use a portion of the savings from the Division of Youth Corrections to fund restorative justice programs with a caveat that a mechanism be in place that said savings be returned to the Division of Youth Corrections if necessary.

The committee requests that the Joint Budget Committee fully fund the Behavioral Health Transformation Council.



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The committee requests that the Joint Budget Committee fully fund the School-based Health Center Program at \$5.2 million with a recommendation that the JBC provide funding by looking for efficiencies throughout the department.

Sincerely,

Senator Irene Aguilar, Chair
Senate Health and Human Services Committee

- c: Joint Budget Committee Members
Senate Health and Human Services Committee Members
Christopher E. Urbina, Executive Director, Department of Public Health Care and Environment
Eliza Park, Legislative Liaison, Department of Public Health Care and Environment
John Ziegler, Staff Director, Joint Budget Committee
Dave DeNovellis, Legislative Council Staff