

Testimony
Senate Bill 2317 - Department of Human Services
House Human Services Committee
Representative Robin Weisz, Chairman

March 4, 2019

Chairman Weisz and members of the House Human Services Committee, I am Tom Eide, Director of Field Services and Chief Financial Officer for the Department of Human Services. I appear to testify on Senate Bill 2317.

The department is in support of determining an appropriate payment plan and system for the medically complicated clients such as those at Anne Carlsen Center in Jamestown. To that end, we are currently working with a consulting group in an effort to define parameters for implementing payments. For your information, there are three current actions which address payments regarding this client group.

First, there is a \$900,000 payment included in SB 2012 which is intended to directly help Anne Carlsen Center offset unintended losses in payment after the implementation of the new DD payment system. Second, this bill proposes a new level of care for the identified client group. Third, Medicaid currently has an open state plan in which we are evaluating an option for a supplemental payment for these identified clients.

We have secured a consultant to review these clients and assess the level of care and potential payment levels and systems that should be utilized. They were recently on site with Anne Carlsen Center and provided some preliminary feedback. We do not yet have that formal report and will likely be asking for additional work to be performed. Their work will provide us more specific guidance on how to approach the payment plan and also how to best review determining an appropriate level of care for medically complicated clients. Our goal would be to have this work completed within a three-week window.

This concludes my testimony and I am happy to answer any questions. Thank you.