



COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY & FINANCING

1570 Grant Street, Denver, CO 80203-1818 • (303) 866-2993 • (303) 866-4411 Fax • (303) 866-3883 TTY

Bill Ritter, Jr., Governor • Joan Henneberry, Executive Director

November 12, 2009

The Honorable Jack Pommer, Chairman
Joint Budget Committee
200 East 14th Avenue, Third Floor
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Representative Pommer:

This letter is in response to the Department's Legislative Request for Information #24:

"The Department is requested to submit a report by November 1, 2009 regarding the implementation of the Vaccines for Children program for clients served by the Children's Basic Health Plan. The Department is requested to provide information in the report regarding the amount of administrative costs associated with implementing this program and the amount of savings achieved or projected."

Due to the heavy volume of work and resources that the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) must dedicate to the H1N1 virus, the staff working in the Immunization Program that operates Vaccines for Children (VFC) will be unable to facilitate the introduction of Children's Basic Health Plan providers into the VFC program. However, the Department will resume working with CDPHE on a plan for a pilot program in January 2010. Due to limited resources and stringent requirements imposed by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), which administers VFC on the federal level, CDPHE can only commit to a small pilot program for Children's Basic Health Plan participation in VFC. This pilot program will not yield any notable savings, but will pave the path for broader Children's Basic Health Plan participation in VFC in the future.

For further information or additional questions concerning this report, please contact Annie Lee at annie.lee@state.co.us or at 303-866-3663.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joan Henneberry".

Joan Henneberry
Executive Director

JH;jls

Cc: Senator Moe Keller, Vice-Chairman, Joint Budget Committee
Senator Abel Tapia, Joint Budget Committee
Senator Al White, Joint Budget Committee
Representative Mark Ferrandino, Joint Budget Committee
Representative Kent Lambert, Joint Budget Committee
Senator Brandon Shaffer, President of the Senate
Senator John Morse, Senate Majority Leader
Senator Josh Penry, Senate Minority Leader
Representative Terrance Carroll, Speaker of the House
Representative Paul Weissmann, House Majority Leader
Representative Mike May, House Minority Leader
John Ziegler, Staff Director, JBC
Melodie Beck, JBC Analyst
Lorez Meinhold, Senior Policy Analyst for Health Care, Governor's Office
Liza Fox, Policy Analyst for Health Care, Governor's Office
Todd Saliman, Director, Office of State Planning and Budgeting
Lisa Esgar, Deputy Director, Office of State Planning and Budgeting
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