

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Item 10: Department of Human Services Topic: COVID-19 Rate Extension

To:	Emergency Board Full Committee
From:	Human Services Subcommittee
Carrier:	Senator Girod

The Human Services Subcommittee recommends that the Emergency Board increase the Federal Funds expenditure limitation for the Department of Human Services by \$12,122,000 to continue a one-time 5% COVID-19 rate increase until June 30, 2023.

The temporary rate increase was first implemented in January 2021 to help providers who serve individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities pay for costs associated with COVID-19, including higher staff costs resulting from the pandemic's impact on the labor market.

Many of these providers continue to face higher costs and workforce challenges, but the current rate increase is set to expire on December 31st. Approving this request will provide an additional six months of enhanced support for these entities. The state share of extending the rate increase is \$6.3 million General Fund, which will be paid using savings identified in the DHS rebalance report.

The Subcommittee recommends approval.