AN ACT

Relating to agency with choice services; creating new provisions; amending section 1, chapter 91, Oregon Laws 2022; and declaring an emergency.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1, Section 1, chapter 91, Oregon Laws 2022, is amended to read:

Sec. 1. (1) As used in this section:

(a) “Agency with choice services” means [performing, on behalf of an individual, the following functions as the employer of record for direct support professionals] support given to an individual in self-directing the individual's services or in managing staff who are providing in-home services and supports to the individual, using a person-centered approach to ensure that the individual is at the center of the decision-making process regarding what services are needed, including by providing:

[(A) Coordinating the schedules and responsibilities of direct support professionals who are providing in-home services and supports to the individual;]

[(B) For each direct support professional providing in-home services and supports to the individual, withholding, filing and paying income and employment-related taxes, including workers’ compensation premiums and unemployment taxes;]

[(C) Verifying the qualifications of each direct support professional; and]

(A) Training, coaching and other forms of support to the individual on:

(i) Self-direction; and

(ii) The roles and responsibilities of the individual and the agency with choice services provider;

(B) Training, coaching and other forms of support to the individual in the overall management of staff providing direct support services to the individual, including in the recruitment, hiring, scheduling and training of staff, performance assessments of staff and dismissal of staff; and

[(D) (C) [Providing] Other administrative and employment-related supports.

(b) “Individual” means a child or adult with an intellectual or developmental disability, or the representative of the child or adult, who receives in-home services and supports through the Department of Human Services.

(2) The department shall [certify agencies] contract with one or more organizations to deliver agency with choice services as a community-based services option under ORS 427.007 (1)(d).
(3) The department shall adopt by rule:
(a) Minimum qualifications for agencies to be certified by the department to deliver agency with choice services; and
(b) Reimbursement rates for the services.

(4) Minimum qualifications for agencies certified to deliver agency with choice services include, but are not limited] An organization contracting with the department under subsection (2) of this section shall be expected, at a minimum, to:
(a) The ability to provide support for individuals in directing the individual's direct support professional and the day-to-day services of the direct support professional;
(b) A commitment to recruit and retain a high quality and diverse workforce to provide agency with choice services;
(a) Maximize an individual's self-direction and autonomy by supporting the individual to direct the individual's staff hired to provide direct support services to the individual and manage the day-to-day services of the individual's staff hired to provide direct support services to the individual;
(c) Have a commitment to work with a broad coalition of stakeholders in an effort to understand the changing needs of the workforce and of individuals' needs, rights and preferences; and
(d) Have the ability to meet the state's interest in preventing or mitigating disruptions to individuals' in-home services and supports;
(e) The ability to implement an electronic visit verification system that complies with state and federal requirements or, in the absence of an electronic visit verification system, to monitor a statistically valid sample of each claim for reimbursement for the cost of services to the receipt of the services by the individual.

(5) The department may not [certify an agency contract with an organization under subsection (2) of this section to provide agency with choice services if the owner of or an executive officer of the organization [the agency] has been convicted of Medicaid fraud in any state within the 25-year period prior to [the certification entering into the contract.

SECTION 2. The Department of Human Services shall contract with an organization to deliver agency with choice services under section 1, chapter 91, Oregon Laws 2022, no later than July 1, 2024.

SECTION 3. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the General Fund appropriation made to the Department of Human Services by section 2 (7), chapter ___, Oregon Laws 2023 (Enrolled House Bill 5026), for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, for intellectual/developmental disabilities programs, is increased by $3,616,453 for carrying out the provisions of section 2 of this 2023 Act and the amendments to section 1, chapter 91, Oregon Laws 2022, by section 1 of this 2023 Act.

SECTION 4. Notwithstanding any other law limiting expenditures, the limitation on expenditures established by section 3 (7), chapter ___, Oregon Laws 2023 (Enrolled House Bill 5026), for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, as the maximum limit for payment of expenses from federal funds collected or received by the Department of Human Services, for intellectual/developmental disabilities programs, is increased by $3,616,453 for carrying out the provisions of section 2 of this 2023 Act and the amendments to section 1, chapter 91, Oregon Laws 2022, by section 1 of this 2023 Act.

SECTION 5. This 2023 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2023 Act takes effect on its passage.