

**NC Collaborative for Children, Youth and Families**

**DATE: September 3, 2019**

**Upcoming Pertinent Legislative Meetings:**

| Date and Time          | Committee  | Location<br>Legislative Office Building (LOB)<br>Legislative Building (LB)<br>Audio link:<br><a href="https://www.ncleg.gov/Audio">https://www.ncleg.gov/Audio</a> |
|------------------------|--|--|
| September 4,<br>4 p.m. | <a href="#">DHHS Webcast (Registration Required)</a> | <a href="#">Webcast Video Available</a>  |

**NC Budget Delay Pushes Out Statewide Managed Care to February:**

Due to the delayed budget and party opposition, NC DHHS has been forced to change the statewide managed care transition from two phases to one phase. Originally, Phase One of the Medicaid Transformation was to begin on November 1, 2019 and Phase Two was to begin on February 1, 2020. Since the NC budget for 2019-2020 is still unresolved, the government has had to continue on the previous year's budget. DHHS cannot implement managed care under this budget and so, announced today, the Medicaid Transformation will launch statewide on February 1, 2020. Activities that cannot progress without a balanced budget include finalizing rates to pay health plans and providers, ensuring health plans have enough providers, assigning beneficiaries that do not have self-select plans and doctors, and obtaining federal approval to launch. This change affects 27 counties, including: Alamance, Alleghany, Ashe, Caswell, Chatham, Durham, Davidson, Davie, Forsyth, Franklin, Granville, Guilford, Johnston, Nash, Orange, Person, Randolph, Rockingham, Stokes, Surry, Vance, Wake, Warren, Watauga, Wilkes, Wilson, and Yadkin. Activities related to Medicaid Transformation that are not tied to budget action will continue as planned. This includes beginning the open enrollment period for all counties on Oct. 14, 2019 to December 13, 2019. DHHS will host a webcast on Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup> from 4 pm-5 pm to answer questions.

**The Impact of Vetoing Bill H555:**

In our last update, we wrote about the movement of House Bill 555 and its quick pace towards adoption into the North Carolina legislature. This bill would allow specific funding for the Medicaid Transformation that would enable Phase One of the transformation to occur on time regardless of the budget disputes. However, on August 29, 2019, when the bill was presented to Governor Roy Cooper, it was vetoed presumably because it did not include Medicaid expansion. H555 has been sent back to the House for revisions. This has greatly impacted the progress of Medicaid Transformation and has resulted in pushing out Medicaid Transformation to a

statewide implementation date of February 1, 2020. The press release from NC DHHS on the prolonged transformation can be found [here](#).

**Bills that are on the move:**

[H555](#): Modernize Medicaid Telemedicine Policies, the bill was presented to the governor on 8/29/19, vetoed by the governor, and sent back to the House.

[H609](#): Once known as Raise the Age Modifications but now labeled Salary Increases/Adult Correctional Employees, the bill was presented to and signed by the governor as Ch. SL 2019-208.

[S361](#): The Health Care Expansion Act of 2019, the Senate failed to concur on the health committee substitution, so the Senate and House have appointed committee conferees for the bill.

**Additional bills we are tracking:**

[H5](#): Close the Medicaid Insurance Gap (see S3)

[H75](#): School Mental Health Screening Study

[H76](#): School Safety Omnibus

[H102](#): Enhance Permanency Innovation Institute (see S245)

[H121](#): Expunction Related to Raise the Age/No Conviction

[H234](#): Funds for Child Advocacy Centers

[H241](#): Education Bond Act of 2019

[H250](#): Dept. of Health and Human Services Revisions

[H291](#): Continue Social Services Regional Supervision and Collaboration Work Group (SSWG) and Extend Children's Council

[H297](#): Psychologist Interjurisdictional Compact

[H434](#): Suicide Risk Ref./Mental Health/Teen Violence

[H471](#): Reduce Administrative Duplication MH/DD/SAS Providers

[H580](#): Increase Foster Care Rates/Funds (see S636)

[H601](#): Funds for NAMI North Carolina, Inc.

[H613](#): Essential Services for Homeless Youth

[H655](#): NC Health Care for Working Families

[H702](#): Modify Juvenile Crime Prevention Councils (see S555)

[H822](#): Comprehensive Behavioral Health Plan, the bill has been sent to the Senate, passed the 1<sup>st</sup> Senate reading, and has been sent to the Senate Committee on Rules and Operations.

[H826](#): Standardized Assessment/Foster Care Pilot

[H935](#): Social Services Reform/DHHS Recommendations, after receiving a favorable committee substitute and being withdrawn from the House Committee on Health and Human Services Appropriations, the bill has been re-referred to the House Committee on Appropriations.

[H956](#): Funds/Youth Villages and Other Purposes

[H966](#): 2019 Appropriations Act, vetoed on 6/28/19

[S3](#): Close the Medicaid Insurance Gap (see H5)

[S175](#): Funds/Eliminate NC Pre-K Waitlist

[S199](#): Child Sex Abuse/Strengthen Laws, the bill has failed to concur in the House committee substitute, however, the Senate and House have confirmed the committee appointed.

[S212](#): NC Fast/Early Child/Transformation/ACH Assess., Conference Committee has been appointed

[S245](#): Enhance Permanency Innovation Institute (see H102)

[S251](#): Modernization of Drug Court Programs

[S382](#): School Psychologist Compensation and Recruitment (see H482)

[S427](#): Smart Start Funds (see H124)

[S476](#): Compt-Based Assess. & Mental Health/Teen Viol., awaiting Conference Committee appointments

[S549](#): Child Welfare/Behavioral Health Pilot/Funds

[S624](#): Guilford County Mental Health Facility /Funds (see H360)

[S636](#): Increase Foster Care Rates/Funds (see H580)

**Bills that have been signed into Law:**

[H301](#): CIP Revisions/Juvenile Code, signed by the governor on 6/21/19 as Ch. SL 2019-33.

[S413](#): Raise the Age Modifications, signed into law on 8/1/19 as Ch. SL 2019-186.

[H609](#): Once known as Raise the Age Modifications but now labeled Salary Increases/Adult Correctional Employees, the bill was presented to and signed by the governor as Ch. SL 2019-208.

[H656](#): Medicaid Changes for Transformation, signed into law by the Governor on 7/4/19 as Ch. SL 2019-81.