

MEMORANDUM



JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE

TO Members of the Joint Budget Committee
FROM Eric Kurtz, JBC Staff (303-866-4952)
DATE March 24, 2021
SUBJECT Health Care Policy and Financing Comeback
R23 Behavioral Health Eligibility and Claims System Consolidation

The JBC voted not to provide the requested \$7.5 million General Fund for the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing's R23 Behavioral Health Eligibility and Claims System Consolidation. However, the JBC sent a letter requesting that the Joint Technology Committee (JTC) review the request. The JTC's letter responding to the JBC follows this memo, but the 43 pages of attachments to the letter are not provided, since they are available in a March 23, 2021, email that was sent to all the JBC members. The JTC recommended approval of the request.

In light of the JTC's recommendation, the JBC staff seeks direction on whether the JBC would like to move forward with the requested funding. It should be noted that the Governor decided not to submit a comeback asking the JBC to reconsider and provide the requested funding.

The original staff recommendation can be found beginning on page 70 of the figure setting document located here:

https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/fy2021-22_hcpfig1.pdf

Sen. Jeff Bridges, Chair
Sen. Chris Kolker
Sen. Kevin Priola

Rep. Brianna Titone, Vice-Chair
Rep. Mark Baisley
Rep. Tracey Bernett



Joint Technology Committee

State Capitol Building, Room 029
Denver, Colorado 80203-1784
(303) 866-3521



March 23, 2021

Senator Dominick Moreno
Chair, Joint Budget Committee
200 East 14th Avenue, Third Floor
Denver, Colorado 80203

Dear Senator Moreno,

In a letter to the Joint Technology Committee (JTC), dated March 12, 2021, the Joint Budget Committee (JBC) requested that the JTC review the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing's FY 2021-22 R-23 operating budget request, Behavioral Health Eligibility and Claims System Consolidation, pursuant to Joint Rule 45 (a)(3)(B). The request is for \$7.5 million General Fund for FY 2021-22 and \$2.1 million General Fund for FY 2022-23.

The JTC met with the department on March 18, 2021, and March 23, 2021, to review this request. Following these meetings, the JTC believes the department has satisfactorily responded to the JBC and JTC's concerns. At its meeting on March 23, 2021, the JTC voted to recommend fully funding the request as submitted. The JTC expresses its support and appreciation for the work the department is doing to improve the behavioral health care system in the state and believes this request is an important part of that work.

The department's presentation slides from the committee's March 23, 2021, meeting and responses provided by the department to JTC staff questions are provided as attachments.

If you have any questions or concerns about the JTC's recommendations, please call Luisa Altmann, Legislative Council Staff, at 303-866-3518.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Bridges", written in a cursive style.

Senator Bridges, Chair