



RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

ELIZABETH DUDEK
SECRETARY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: AHCA Communications Office
AHCACommunications@ahca.myflorida.com
(850) 412-3623

AHCA Submits Senate's LIP Model to Amend 1115 Medicaid Waiver

- Amendment would request \$2.167 billion for a redesigned Low Income Pool program -

Tallahassee, FL – Today the Agency for Health Care Administration (Agency) sent the Senate Low Income Pool (LIP) proposal as an amendment to the 1115 Managed Medical Assistance Waiver which would extend the LIP program through June 30, 2017. Additional information from the public comment period will be submitted upon the conclusion of the public meetings scheduled for April 29th in Orlando, April 30th in Miami and May 1st in Tallahassee.

Secretary Liz Dudek said, “We are submitting the Florida Senate’s LIP model to CMS today in hopes that they will quickly grant us approval or give us any feedback to continue supporting uncompensated care for low income Floridians. We are expediting our submission of this LIP model in order to help CMS speed up their decision. CMS knows that our budget depends on their rapid response to this model. After the federally required public comment period has concluded, the agency will compile the public comments, along with any needed adjustments and send them to CMS.”

The LIP proposal shares some characteristics with the existing program but has been redesigned in key areas to support federal and state goals. The redesigned program built off of the Florida Senate’s LIP model:

- Has a total funding level of \$2.167 billion (including state, local and federal funds)
- Includes restructured hospital distributions to more broadly distribute funding and encourage access for vulnerable populations
- Maintains funding for Florida medical schools
- Maintains funding to Florida’s County Health Departments (CHD) and Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) to encourage primary care
- Includes enhanced reporting of LIP activities and fund flows to improve transparency

Below is the process to submit a formal request for 1115 waiver amendment to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS):

Notify Tribes: The Agency has sent correspondence to the Seminole Tribe and the Miccosukee Tribe on April 20, 2015 requesting input on the amendment request.



Public Meetings: The Agency published public notices for three public meetings in the Florida Administrative Register (FAR).

- April 29, 2015 in Orlando,
 - As required, during the April 29, 2015 meeting in Orlando, the Agency will be asking for input on this amendment request from the members of the Medical Care Advisory Committee, and the public at large
- April 30, 2015 in Miami, and
- May 1, 2015 in Tallahassee

Public Comment Period:

- Posted the Public Notice Document Amendment Request, today, April 20, 2015, on the Agency's website: <http://ahca.media/1yK5IdX>
- The Public comment period will run for thirty days, beginning on April 21, 2015 through May 22, 2015.

The Agency for Health Care Administration is committed to better health care for all Floridians. The Agency administers Florida's Medicaid program, licenses and regulates more than 45,000 health care facilities and 34 health maintenance organizations, and publishes health care data and statistics at FloridaHealthFinder.gov.

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