

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION**

DATE: January 25, 2017

TO: Theodore Lipscomb, Sr., Chairman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Héctor Colón, Director, Department of Health and Human Services

SUBJECT: **Report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, providing an informational report regarding possible 2017-2019 State of Wisconsin budget actions**

Issue

Per Resolution File No. 17-159, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors requested a written informational report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, regarding possible 2017-2019 State of Wisconsin budget actions relating to the Department, including juvenile justice, child protection, and family support services.

Discussion

Juvenile Justice

The proposed 2017-2019 Budget for the State Department of Corrections (DOC) included an increase to the Juvenile Correctional Institution (JCI) rate charged for youth placed at the State institutes including Lincoln Hills, Copper Lake and Mendota. This adjustment is anticipated to increase charges by about \$500,000 in 2017 with the annual impact expected to be about \$1 million in 2018 based on a year-to-date Average Daily Population (ADP) of 81 in 2016.

In addition, there is proposed language in the DOC budget to increase the maximum age of minors convicted of a crime who are eligible to be transferred to a juvenile correctional facility from the adult system. The maximum age would increase from the current 16 years of age to 18 years of age. At this time, no budgetary impact is anticipated as a result of this budget initiative. The State pays for the placement costs of these juveniles.

Finally, DHHS sent a letter dated 12/1/16 to Governor Scott Walker proposing a partnership with the State in the development of a secure detention facility in Milwaukee County. This letter was also submitted to the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors and shared with the Health and Human Needs Committee at its December 2016 meeting. This letter outlined our proposal in which the Delinquency and Court Services Division (DCSD) would oversee treatment and transition services while the State would be responsible for the general operations of the facility.

The Governor has indicated that he will not be including our proposal in his budget. We have proposed working in partnership with the Governor and key legislators to create an alternative

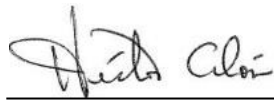
juvenile justice model that can guide our efforts toward comprehensive statewide juvenile justice reform. The Governor and his staff continue to be open to this.

Child Protection and Income Maintenance

Although bringing back Child Protective Services or Income Maintenance may make sense, a comprehensive approach is necessary to make sure we look at financial, operational, quality and cultural aspects of this transition to ensure it is done correctly. Robust conversations are necessary with the state, county and stakeholders before any transition would be considered.

Recommendation

This report is informational and no action is required.



Héctor Colón, Director
Department of Health and Human Services

cc: County Executive Chris Abele
Chief Judge Maxine White
Raisa Koltun, County Executive's Office
Kelly Bablitch, County Board
County Supervisor Supreme Moore-Omokunde, County Board
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