

SECTION 213.30. UNIFIED LONG-TERM CARE BUDGET
WORKGROUP

(A) There is hereby created the Unified Long-Term Care Budget Workgroup. The Workgroup shall consist of the following members:

- (1) The Director of Aging;
- (2) Consumer advocates, representatives of the provider community, and state policy makers, appointed by the Governor;
- (3) Two members of the House of Representatives, one member from the majority party and one member from the minority party, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
- (4) Two members of the Senate, one member from the majority party and one member from the minority party, appointed by the President of the Senate.

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The Director of Aging shall serve as the chairperson of the Workgroup.

(B) The Workgroup shall develop a unified long-term care budget that facilitates the following:

- (1) Providing a consumer a choice of services that meet the consumer's health care needs and improve the consumer's quality of life;
- (2) Providing a continuum of services that meet the needs of a consumer throughout life;
- (3) Consolidating policymaking authority and the associated budgets in a single entity to simplify the consumer's decision making and maximize the state's flexibility in meeting the consumer's needs;
- (4) Assuring the state has a system that is cost effective and links disparate services across agencies and jurisdictions.

(C) The Workgroup shall submit a written implementation plan to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, the President of the Senate, the Minority Leader of the Senate, and the members of the Joint Legislative Committee on Medicaid Technology and Reform not later than June 1, 2008. The plan shall incorporate the following:

- (1) Recommendations regarding the structure of the unified long-term care budget;
- (2) A plan outlining how funds can be transferred among involved agencies in a fiscally neutral manner;
- (3) Identification of the resources needed to implement the unified budget in a multiphase approach starting in fiscal year 2009;
- (4) Success criteria and tools to measure progress against the success criteria.

The plan shall consider the recommendations of the Medicaid Administrative Study Council and the Ohio Commission to Reform Medicaid.

(D) In support of the Unified Long-Term Care Budget the following shall be established in the General Revenue Fund:

(1) In the Department of Aging, 490-423, Long-Term Care Budget - State;

(2) In the Department of Job and Family Services, 600-435, Long-Term Care Budget - State;

(3) In the Department of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities, 322-406, Long-Term Care Budget - State;

(4) In the Department of Mental Health, 335-411, Long-Term Care Budget - State.

(E) On an annual basis, the Directors of Aging and Budget and Am. Sub. H. B. No. 119

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Management shall submit a written report to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, the President of the Senate, the Minority Leader of the Senate, and the members of the Joint Legislative Committee on Medicaid Technology and Reform describing the progress towards establishing, or if already established, the effectiveness of the unified long-term care budget.

(F) When the Governor creates the administration described in section 309.30.03 of this act for the Medicaid program, the Director of Budget and Management may do all of the following in support of the Workgroup's proposal:

(1) Transfer funds and appropriations currently appropriated to pay for Medicaid services to any appropriation item referenced in division (D) of this section;

(2) Transfer funds between appropriation items referenced in division (D) of this section;

(3) Develop a reporting mechanism to transparently show how the funds are being transferred and expended.

The Director shall obtain Controlling Board approval before transferring funds or appropriations under division (F) of this section.

(G) Before a proposal for a unified long-term care budget may be implemented, the Joint Legislative Committee on Medicaid Technology and Reform shall approve implementation of the proposal and submit the Committee's approval to the Governor.