

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
FY 2006-07 BUDGET HEARING**

**OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION
SELF-SUFFICIENCY
ADULT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**

**Friday, December 22, 2006
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon**

9:00 – 9:10

Introductions and General Overview

9:10 – 9:30

**Common Questions (possibly affecting more than one Division)
Performance Measures**

1. How do your performance measures influence department activities and budgeting?
2. To what extent do the performance outcomes reflect appropriation levels?
3. To what extent do you believe that appropriation levels in your budget could or should be tied to specific performance measure outcomes?
4. As a department director, how do you judge your department's performance? What key measures and targets do you use?

**Implementing Legislation Concerning Illegal Immigration: H.B. 06S-1023 and
H.B. 06S-1009**

5. Provide a list of programs in your department that are subject to the provisions of the two bills.
6. How has your department implemented the provisions of the two bills? What problems have been encountered in implementing them?
7. Provide an estimate of the costs your department will incur in FY 2006-07 to implement the bills. Are any additional costs anticipated in FY 2007-08? If so, please elaborate.

8. Provide a summary of anticipated savings in FY 2006-07 in your department as a result of not providing services to individuals who are in the country illegally. Are any additional savings anticipated in FY 2007-08? If so, please elaborate.

Proposal to Eliminate "Cash Funds Exempt" in the Long Bill

9. **Background.** Joint Budget Committee staff has proposed eliminating the current "Cash Funds Exempt" column in the Long Bill and replacing it with a new column entitled "Transfers" effective with the **FY 2008-09 Long Bill**. The Joint Budget Committee has not formally voted on this issue. For details of the proposed change, please read the Joint Budget Committee staff memo from November 15, 2006, entitled "Proposed Long Bill Format Change." To help departments understand the new format, our staff has prepared an example of the Department of Revenue FY 2006-07 Long Bill in the proposed new format. This memo, and the example from the Department of Revenue, can be downloaded from the JBC web page at the following Internet address:

http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/jbc/PLBFC11-15-06.pdf

Question. Please provide the Joint Budget Committee with a summary of any potential concerns that your department may have regarding the proposed change to the Long Bill format. Please highlight potential issues such as: implementation challenges, workload issues, and other related concerns.

Miscellaneous

10. How much has been requested for community provider rates?
11. How many "new real bodies" are involved in the FTE increases in the decision items?

9:30 - 10:00

County Administration

12. Why is the administration amount for the counties flat?
13. What is county contingency? Please provide an historical update of what has happened with county contingency funding. Does the department believe there are sufficient funds available for county contingency? If not, how much is needed? How have the contingency funds needed by individual counties fluctuated over time?
14. Has the department chosen a vendor for the workload study as yet? What was the process for choosing a vendor?

15. Will the workload study be completed within the current fiscal year? The \$500,000 expense for the study was an estimate made before selecting a vendor who would do the actual work; is that estimate still accurate?
16. It has been almost 30 years since the last workload study; will this study include any steps that might be useful in keeping knowledge of the county workload more up to date following this study? Much of the application process has been automated, at least in the sense that computer screens have replaced paper forms; can our support systems like CBMS be used to collect statistics that would indicate changes in county workload?

10:00 - 10:30

Self Sufficiency

TANF-Related Footnotes

17. Does the federal government require unspent TANF funds to be returned to the federal government?
18. Does the state have to do anything to reauthorize TANF? Is there a sunset on the authorizing statute?
19. There is a lot of variation between counties with respect to the amounts transferred to other programs. Is there need to be concerned with those differences? Is there analysis that shows which counties have been successful and which have not?

TANF Reauthorization

20. Where is the State in terms of a five year limit on persons receiving TANF? Where are the counties? Are there any exceptions to this rule for people with mental health issues? Are the 15,000 current cases the most complex ones? If they are the most difficult, will we be able to reduce caseload any further?
21. What are the current work-participation rates for families in the Colorado Works program, using the new rules? What are the current trends in the participation rate? Is Colorado looking at reversing a deteriorating situation, or accelerating trends that were already headed in the right direction? When might it be reasonable to expect Colorado to achieve compliance with the federal requirements?
22. In order to meet a statewide target, between six and ten of the counties with the largest caseloads will have to meet the target. Under current statute, can the state government single those counties out and provide them with assistance not available to the other counties? Under current statute, can the state government single those counties out for particular penalties for failure to address a problem?

10:30 - 11:00

Adult Assistance

SSI Maintenance of Effort

23. Would an increase to the Old Age Pension result in an increase to this maintenance of effort target?
24. Which of the programs used to meet this MOE requirement are well-targeted to that purpose? That is, which programs pay a large portion of their benefits to SSI recipients, and which do not?
25. Can local energy assistance apply to MOE? Are there additional programs which could contribute to the MOE spending? Is the targeting of those programs towards SSI recipients better or worse than the programs that are already used in this fashion? Are the payments made by those programs stable and predictable from year to year? Could spending on those programs that would count towards the MOE target be used in place of spending in the programs currently used to meet the MOE target?
26. Are there any limitations on switching between the total expenditures test and the pass-along test?
27. Can the Department make a good estimate of the costs associated with switching from the expenditures test to the pass-along test?
28. Does switching from the expenditures test to the pass-along test require a statutory change?
29. How far out of compliance were states that have been sanctioned for failure to meet their SSI maintenance of effort?

11:00 - 11:30

Information Technology Services Questions

Colorado Benefits Management System (CBMS)

30. Is the Department of Human Services the key department for the CBMS system? Where should the Office of CBMS be located in the future?
31. Are all of the software, the physical hardware, and the space occupied by the system owned by the state of Colorado? If not, who owns which resources?
32. What are the sources of funds other than General Funds used for CBMS?
33. Is it possible to do a cost/benefit analysis on CBMS? Has CBMS brought to light the need for increased spending for clients that were not getting services that they should have been getting? Decreased spending for clients that were receiving services they

should not have been getting? Has the system achieved the savings that the project originally anticipated would occur once it was operational?

34. Please quantify the increased cost of service delivery in going from 1.39 programs per client to 1.60 programs, both in state and federal funds.
35. What is the range of settlement that could occur in the mediated settlement of the CBMS lawsuit? What amount is the other side looking for?
36. With respect to decision item #15: How did the Department determine the amount for hardware expenditures? Was it competitively bid? Did the Department look at outsourcing? What equipment will the Department get for the money?

11:30 - 12:00

CBMS 1331 Supplemental Request

37. How does this qualify as data that was not available when the original appropriation was made?
38. Are there private vendors, other than EDS, that believe they could reliably perform the maintenance function? What indications are there that the maintenance of the system could be turned over to another firm without catastrophic results? As the Department moves forward, how will the Office of Information Technology and Commission on Information Management be involved?
39. Please provide a more detailed description of the scope of the work (nature and size of the outputs, etc.) that justifies the requested amount.
40. What was the term of the EDS contract? How long will the next contract run?
41. How many bidders will the department typically get on a project such as this? Are we considering EDS as a possible vendor?