August 14, 2017

Members of Executive Appropriations Committee and Health and Human Services Interim Committee:

As required by state statute and as requested by the Legislative Fiscal Analyst, the Utah Department of Health (UDOH) submits the following report.

Utah Code 26-18-411
(5) On or before September 30, 2017, and on or before September 30 each year thereafter, the department shall report to the Legislature’s Health and Human Services Interim Committee and to the Legislature’s Executive Appropriations Committee:

(a) the number of individuals who enrolled in Medicaid under Subsection (3);

UDOH Response - None, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has not approved the waiver amendment to create this group.

(b) the state cost of providing Medicaid to individuals enrolled under Subsection (3); and

UDOH Response - None, CMS has not approved the waiver amendment to create this group.

(c) recommendations for adjusting the income eligibility ceiling under Subsection (4), and other eligibility criteria under Subsection (3), for the upcoming fiscal year.

UDOH Response - None, CMS has not approved the waiver amendment to create this group. Therefore, UDOH has no experience covering this group that would help UDOH develop recommendations for changing the income eligibility ceiling or the eligibility criteria for this group.
The waiver amendment required by House Bill 437 (2016) was submitted to CMS in August 2016. The prior federal administration failed to act on the waiver amendment.

The current federal administration has offered states additional flexibility regarding their Medicaid programs. UDOH proposed a list of revisions to the State’s 1115 waiver and conducted a public comment period on those revisions in June and July of 2017. UDOH expects to submit those revisions to CMS in the near future.

Please let us know if you have questions regarding the items in this report.

Sincerely,

Nate Checketts  
Deputy Director, Utah Department of Health  
Director, Medicaid and Health Financing