

401 Hathaway Building • Cheyenne, WY 82002 Phone (307) 777-7656 • 1-866-571-0944 Fax (307) 777-7439 • www.health.wyo.gov



Stefan Johansson Director Mark Gordon Governor

MEMORANDUM

Date:

October 24th, 2023

To:

Joint Labor, Health and Social Services Committee

Joint Appropriations Committee

From:

Stefan Johansson, Director

Wyoming Department of Health

Subject:

Aging in Wyoming Series

Ref:

J-2023-500

This "Aging in Wyoming" series of reports is the Department's consolidated response to two Legislative directives, established by footnotes to Section 048 of the Budget Bill enacted by the Wyoming Legislature in its 2023 General Session.

Footnote 17 reads:

17. The director of the department of health, with the consent of the governor, shall enter into negotiations with the United States department of health and human services regarding the operation of a narrowly tailored, long-term care waiver under Section 1315 of Title XI, Part A of the federal Social Security Act, as amended, with the intent of expanding long-term home care and community-based services to individuals who may not currently qualify for such services under Medicaid as reported by the department of health to the joint labor, health and social services interim committee and the joint appropriations committee in accordance with footnote 6 of this section.

Footnote 18 reads:

Of this general fund appropriation, twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00) is appropriated for an outside study to review the program of all-inclusive care for the elderly (PACE) specified in W.S. 42-4-121. The study shall review the possibility of reinstituting the program throughout Wyoming, considering for-profit and nonprofit options and potential cost savings. The joint labor, health and social services interim committee shall also study the program for all-inclusive care for the elderly during the 2023 interim. (BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR FEBRUARY 24, 2023.)

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Part I of this series is a primer on Wyoming's aging demographics and projected costs to Wyoming Medicaid. Part II is a report on the "tailored, long-term care waiver" required by Footnote 17, and Part III is the PACE study required by Footnote 18.

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c: Governor Mark Gordon
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