

# UTAH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

**Subject:**

ACTION: Medicaid Billing System

**Agenda item type:**

Action Item

**Recommended Action:**

MOTION FOR THE BOARD: That the Board approves Utah State Board of Education staff to work and coordinate with the Utah Department of Health to develop, test, and implement a Medicaid billing system for use by districts and/or charter schools and that once the system is fully operational the Board staff transition the system to oversight and control by Utah State Board of Education staff.

**Background:**

Issue: Districts and/or charter schools currently utilize contracted services for their Medicaid billing needs. These services can be quite expensive. The expenses often preclude districts and/or charter schools from actually billing Medicaid even though they are eligible to do so, which translates to "leaving money on the table."

Discussion: The Utah Department of Health has an opportunity to utilize ARP/ESSER funds to develop, test, and implement a statewide Medicaid billing system. This system would be accessible for use by districts and/or charter schools. The system would be free of charge to districts/charter schools with the estimated impact on them of only having to provide sufficient staff to ensure proper use of the system and entry of information to access Medicaid funds for their students. Additionally, districts and/or charter schools here in Utah have had to 'reimburse' for erroneous Medicaid billings. In one particular instance a school district had to reimburse Medicaid over \$1MM. The system, once funded, developed, tested, and implemented by the Utah Department of Health would conceivably provide not only additional revenue but 'cost avoidance' to our districts and/or charter schools. The key condition is though, that once the system is fully operational, public education will take the system under its control. Utah State Board of Education Financial Operations staff estimate that assuming control of a properly established system will have very little financial impact. If the Utah State Board of Education were to approve working with the Utah Department of Health on the system, we could identify the staffing levels as part of the development of the system for sustaining the system once it is completed and transferred over from the Utah Department of Health to the Utah State Board of Education. Preliminary estimates are that two additional Information Technology staff, full time, could sustain a properly developed and implemented Medicaid billing system for our districts and/or charter schools to utilize to effectively increase much needed revenue for their students. The estimated benefits to our districts/charter schools outweigh the costs. The Utah Department of Health assumes responsibility for funding the development, testing, and implementation of a Medicaid billing system that meets or exceeds the needs of the districts and/or charter schools to effectively bill and collect Medicaid funds properly. The Utah State Board of Education would assume responsibility for sustainment funding of the fully operational Medicaid billing system.

Recommendation: The Utah State Board of Education Finance Committee recommends that the Utah State Board of Education approve Utah State Board of Education staff working with the Utah Department of Health to develop, test, and implement a Medicaid billing system for use by districts and/or charter schools and that once the system is fully operational the Utah State Board of

Educaiton staff transition the system to oversight and control by Utah State Board of Educaiton staff.

**Contact:**

Name:	Dr. Leah Voorhies	Scott Jones
Title:	Assistan Superintendent	Deputy Superintendent
Phone:	801-538-7500	801-538-7500
Email:	<a href="mailto:leah.voorhies@schools.utah.gov">leah.voorhies@schools.utah.gov</a>	<a href="mailto:scott.jones@schools.utah.gov">scott.jones@schools.utah.gov</a>

**Attachments:**

None