

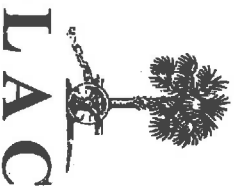
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

ACTION REFERRAL

TO	DATE
Singleton	3-18-08

DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY	ACTION REQUESTED	
1. LOG NUMBER 000480	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____	
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE <u>3-27-08</u> <input type="checkbox"/> FOIA DATE DUE _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Necessary Action	
<i>Cleared 3/28/08, letter attached.</i>		

APPROVALS (Only when prepared for director's signature)	APPROVE	* DISAPPROVE (Note reason for disapproval and return to preparer.)	COMMENT
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			



SOUTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Legislative Audit Council
Independence, Reliability, Integrity



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March 14, 2008

Ms. Emma Forkner, Director
Department of Health and Human Services
P. O. Box 8206
Columbia, SC 29202-8206

MAR 17 2008

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Dear Ms. Forkner:

I would like to thank you and your staff for the assistance you have given us during our review of the Medicaid non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) program. Due to uncertainties regarding the availability of broker data, I would like to obtain your assistance in obtaining certain information.

It is our understanding that DHHS and the Office of Regulatory Services are proponents of a state regulation that would reduce long-term expenditures in the NEMT program by authorizing the use of stretcher vans.

We, also, are interested in the potential savings that the use of stretcher vans would yield. To analyze this issue, we have obtained from broker report cards the number of "stretcher trips" from May 2007 through December 2007. To complete our analysis we will need the following for that time period:

- The number of stretcher trip miles traveled, listed separately for each broker.
- The rates paid by each broker to stretcher trip providers.
- Total expenditures on stretcher trips by each broker.
- Estimates of the rates that each broker anticipates paying for stretcher van trips, if authorized by the General Assembly.

If DHHS does not have some of this information, we would like to request that the department obtain it from the brokers.

Under S.C. Code § 2-15-61, the Legislative Audit Council has access to all records of DHHS. We understand that the rates brokers pay to transportation providers may be considered proprietary. Under S.C. Code § 2-15-62, the Legislative Audit Council is subject to statutory provisions concerning the confidentiality of records. Additionally, under S.C. Code § 2-15-120, the LAC's records are confidential. Any confidential information cannot be disclosed by the LAC.

If you have any questions, please contact Andrea Truitt, our general counsel, or Andy Young at 253-7612.

Sincerely,


George L. Schroeder, Director

/mrw

LAC.SC.GOV

Log # 480 ✓



State of South Carolina
Department of Health and Human Services

Mark Sanford
Governor

Emma Forkner
Director

March 28, 2008

George L. Schroeder, Director
South Carolina General Assembly
Legislative Audit Council
1331 Elmwood Avenue, Suite 315
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Mr. Schroeder:

This is in response to your March 14, 2008 letter requesting information pertaining to your review of the Medicaid non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) program. I have spoken with Andy Young at the Legislative Audit Council (LAC) regarding your request. Pursuant to my conversation with Mr. Young, we are in the process of compiling the information which has been requested. The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is also working closely with the transportation brokers to obtain any information that they may have which is responsive to your request.

As soon as we have assembled all of the information requested, DHHS will promptly provide the information.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact me at (803) 898-2795.

Sincerely,

Deirdra T. Singleton
Deirdra T. Singleton
General Counsel

DTS/bb

Office of General Counsel
P. O. Box 8206 Columbia South Carolina 29202-8206
(803) 898-2795 Fax (803) 255-8210