



Home and Community Based Service Waiver Slots

HCBS waiver slots are designed to serve individuals with disabilities and seniors in the community when they might otherwise require hospital or nursing home care, and are often the most appropriate, cost effective services for the individuals seeking them.

The HCBS waiver program provides services that state plan Medicaid coverage does not cover such as skilled nursing, assistive technology, home modifications, and access to community integration, which are essential for people to successfully live in a HCBS setting and maintain the greatest degree of freedom and independence.

Only 80 of the 178 appropriated waiver slots were allocated during the past biennium. The remaining 98 slots were cut during the Governor's interim budget cuts and the 80 that were allocated are now going to be cut out because they were funded with OTO funds there is no funding for them in HB 2.

By decreasing these services, people would have to go without essential services and would be less likely to successfully continue to live in the least restrictive setting possible and may be forced into an institution or other more restrictive, higher cost care setting.

Funding that was appropriated by the 2009 legislature for the 80 slots that have already been allotted to individuals should be maintained and the 2.22% funding reduction that was a part of the 5% reduction plan, should be reinstated to ensure all recipients can continue to receive the current level of services that are now available.