

Rob Siedlecki, Acting Secretary
Department of Social And Rehabilitation
Services

**Senate Ways & Means Committee
March 11, 2011**

**SB 210 – Assessment on Providers of
Developmental Disability Waiver Program**

**Disability & Behavioral Health Services
Ray Dalton, Deputy Secretary**

For Additional Information Contact:
Gary Haulmark, Director of Legislative Affairs
Docking State Office Building, 6th Floor North
(785) 296-3271

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Chairwomen McGinn and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to present testimony today on SB210, which would enact an assessment on providers of home and community based services for the developmental disability waiver program.

SRS appreciates the efforts that have been undertaken to develop a potential avenue to strengthen the quantity and quality of Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Waiver services in Kansas. SRS will work closely with the Kansas Health Policy Authority (KHPA) to submit to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), any request for amendments to the approved HCBS waivers or Kansas Medicaid State Plan that would be necessary in order to implement the provisions of this bill.

SRS has two concerns with this bill as it is currently written. The first is that all of the funding generated from this bill will be used only for increasing the rates paid to providers. There is no provision in the bill to provide services to those on the waiting list. We recommend that the funds from this assessment should be used equally for the waiting list and to help with the budget situation facing the state.

The second concern is that we want to ensure the Committee understands that the DD Waiver providers are currently not a CMS approved class of providers on which a provider assessment can be levied. The classes of health care providers that can be assessed a fee is contained in 42 CFR 433.56 and to add the DD Waiver providers would require CMS to go through the process to change this regulation.

SRS stands ready to work with the Legislature, KHPA and other interested parties to pursue a provider assessment option that would strengthen the infrastructure of and promote the quality and quantity of HCBS services in Kansas.