



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

NICK LYON
INTERIM DIRECTOR

February 25, 2015

The Honorable Peter MacGregor, Chair
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on DHS
Michigan State Senate
Lansing, Michigan 48933

The Honorable Earl Poleski, Chair
House Appropriations Subcommittee on DHS
Michigan House of Representatives
Lansing, Michigan 48933

Dear Senator MacGregor and Representative Poleski:

Section 229(1) of 2014 Public Act No. 252 requires the Department of Human Services (DHS) to conduct a workgroup with the Department of Treasury and members from both the Senate and House of Representatives to determine how the state can align the spending of Michigan Works! job readiness programs with the declining Family Independence Program caseload. The workgroup shall also investigate possible reductions in the amount of TANF funding that is provided to Michigan Works!.

Section 229(2) of 2014 Public Act No. 252 requires DHS to submit to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on the department budget, the senate and house fiscal agencies, the senate and house policy offices, and the state budget office by March 1 of the current fiscal year a report on the recommendations of the workgroup on the items described in subsection (1), including but not limited to, the proposed amount of TANF funding provided to Michigan Works!

DHS and the Department of Treasury were notified on February 3, 2015 who the Senate and House representatives would be (Representatives Earl Poleski and Joel Johnson, as well as Senators Peter MacGregor and Coleman A. Young II). All participants were not available for an initial meeting, however, until March 5, 2015. At the initial meeting an action plan will be developed that will include a schedule for any additional meetings and a timeline for when the required report with the recommendations of the workgroup will be available.

Due to the scheduling issues, the Chairmen of the House and Senate Appropriation Subcommittees on DHS have agreed to waive the penalty in Section 295 of 2014 Public Act No. 252. DHS appreciates the Legislature's cooperation in this matter.

If you have questions regarding this, please contact Terrence M. Beurer, Deputy Director, Field Operations Administration, at (517) 373-3570.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susan Kangas".

Susan Kangas
Chief Financial Officer

CC: Senate and House Appropriations Subcommittees on DHS
Senate and House Fiscal Agencies
Senate and House Policy Offices
State Budget Office