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Dear Developmental Disability Providers;

The Department has made the decision to withdraw the proposed changes to the Children's Enhancement rules originally scheduled for the 2019 Legislature. After hearing concerns from parents, providers, and other advocates, the Department believes more collaboration is needed to move habilitative intervention into the state plan, maintain the family directed option, and ensure agencies are able to adequately provide the state plan habilitative intervention services.

In order to facilitate ongoing collaboration, the Department is scheduling formal and informal negotiated rule making sessions beginning in September 2018 and continuing through May 2019. The first meeting will be held on Monday, September 10, 2018, from 9:00 – 12:00 PM, at 1720 Westgate Drive, Conference Room 131, Boise, ID. Other meetings will be scheduled monthly, or more often as needed. To ensure families from around the state have the opportunity to provide input, video and in person meetings will be scheduled in other regions of the state.

Meetings will be announced on this website:

<http://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/Medical/DevelopmentalDisabilities/ChildrensDDServices/ChildrensDDServicesEnhancementProject/tabid/3566/Default.aspx>. Once on the website, select the rule making schedule tab in the right-hand column.

A draft of the proposed rules is attached to this letter. These draft rules are a beginning point for our discussions. We will go through the draft rules section by section to identify concerns, barriers, and allow for the sharing of constructive ideas and alternatives to develop a set of rules that can be supported by both the Department and stakeholders.

Since the current children's waiver expires on June 30, 2019, and habilitative intervention services can no longer operate under the current waiver authority, it is imperative new rules are written. These will be temporary-proposed rules and will take effect on July 1, 2019. In order for the rules to become permanent, they must be approved by the 2020 legislature.

By taking this action, it allows the Department and stakeholders the additional time needed to collaboratively address concerns with moving habilitative intervention services into the state plan.

We look forward to working together to create positive and effective services for those we serve.

Sincerely,

Arthur L. Evans, LMSW
Bureau Chief
Bureau of Developmental Disability Services