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OPTION	SUMMARY	COST	RISKS
<p>Status:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ MOE outreach group has been established. Outreach group has been assembled ▪ List of potential source agencies is under development and nearly complete ▪ Outreach initiative informational flyer is under development ▪ Outreach introductory letter to be signed by DSHS Secretary is under development ▪ Initial contacts to begin in early July 		
<p>State Fund Two-Parent Families</p> <p>Status:</p>	<p>Use general funds to provide assistance to two-parent families and the expenditures would not be reported as MOE. TANF restrictions would no longer apply such as time limits or work participation.</p>	<p>FFY 2006 = estimate \$32.1 M FFY 2010 = \$45.4 M spent on two-parent families</p>	<p>Insufficient support in Legislature to fund a non-MOE program.</p>
<p>Subsidized Employment Transition</p> <p>Status:</p>	<p>Concept being developed to work with employers who hire subsidized employment recipients into full-time employment after the subsidized program ends. Requires employer’s agreement to allow state to claim wages as a wage subsidy and agreement with ACF that such a practice is permissible.</p> <p>A summary of this proposal has been sent to ACF to see if it would be permissible.</p> <p>ACF has not approved this proposal because the employer’s wages would not be considered “assistance”. They have suggested that we may want to consider a waiver request to run a pilot to test the outcome under the recently released §1115 waiver authority announcement.</p>		

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<p>§1115 Waivers</p>	<p>On July 12, 2012, the ACF issued a program information memorandum¹ which outlined authority for HHS to waive certain requirements of the TANF program.</p> <p>HHS is willing to permit states to test approaches and methods other than those identified in Section 607. Any waivers to work participation requirements must make changes that lead to more effective ways of meeting the work goals of TANF.</p> <p>This would be an opportunity to test alternative engagement definitions such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ counting educational activities as core requirements; ▪ extending the 12-month vocational education limit to 24-months; or ▪ permitting parents who leave TANF subsidized employment to private sector employment to count toward the work participation rate for a period of time (such as 12 months). <p>To receive ACF approval, waivers must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ be cost neutral; ▪ rigorously evaluated; ▪ provide a compelling argument that they will result in improved employment ; ▪ include interim performance targets which must be met; and ▪ are time limited. 	<p>Waivers must be cost neutral.</p>	<p>On July 12, Dave Camp, Chairman House Committee on Ways and Means, and Orrin G. Hatch, Ranking Member, Senate Finance Committee, sent a letter to HHS Secretary Sebelius expressing their deep concerns with the Information Memorandum (IM) that proposes to grant §1115 waivers to the TANF work participation requirements (42 USC 607).</p> <p>The letter expressed their doubts that HHS had legal authority to grant waivers to the TANF work participation requirements based upon the logic of the IM.</p> <p>They set a deadline of Monday, July 16, 2012, for the receipt of the response from HHS so that they may consider the legal arguments and plan their next steps. The letter stated that they will actively resist efforts to undermine the progress made by the TANF program.</p>

¹ See TANF-ACF-IM-2012-03, *Guidance concerning waiver and expenditure authority under Section 1115*, dated July 12, 2012.

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Department of Social & Health Services
TANF Briefing: Higher Work Participation Targets for FFY 2012
Work Participation Options
Update: July 18, 2012

OPTION	SUMMARY	COST	RISKS
Status:	Discussions are underway to consider possible waiver options.		

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