

Subject: Paid Parent Stakeholder Meeting: Friday, December 9 at 3pm
Date: Friday, December 2, 2022 at 1:14:39 PM Pacific Standard Time
From: Sen Gelser Blouin
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Priority: High

Hello! I hope this email finds you well as we enter the final month of 2022 and barrel towards the 2023 Legislative Session.

I will be hosting a stakeholder meeting on December 9 to discuss issues related to legislative proposals to allow payments to parents of minor children for providing attendant care services typically provided by DSPs or PSWs. This meeting will be held at 3pm with **limited in person participation** and **unlimited virtual participation**. **An additional email will be forthcoming from my office with details about how to RSVP for meeting participation.**

This meeting will be an opportunity for stakeholders to ask questions, get clarifications and to share ideas, information, suggestions and concerns about known and potential proposals on this issue. At this point, it is my understanding that there are two measure that will be introduced on this topic. One is the bill that I have requested and the other is a bill requested by Senator Knopp. When I checked in with Senator Knopp earlier this week he was also still waiting to get his measure back from the drafters. However, once the bills are introduced, we will plan to have the bills scheduled for hearings on the same day so that the committee is informed about all possible alternatives for this policy.

Both of the measures will be introduced and described at the Senate Human Services, Mental Health and Recovery Hearing on Friday, December 9. You can attend this hearing in person, or you can watch it online.

There will not be public testimony as the agenda is intended to simply provide information about the two bills in a forum that gets information out to the largest possible audience. Both written LCs should also be available for review online by that date. After legislators and/or their staff provide an overview of their concepts, there will be an opportunity for the committee to ask questions. ODDS will also be present to answer any technical questions the committee may have.

For the bill I have drafted to be presession filed as a committee bill, the committee must vote to introduce it on Friday morning, December 9, at the Committee hearing. Presession filing is important because it will make the measure available at the start of session to ensure plenty of time for public process and public hearings. Although the draft is coming back too late to make changes prior to introduction, that does not mean there will not be changes or that the bill would move forward in its present form. Instead, presession filing will allow us to start the public process to make amendments to bills and decide which bills might move forward. All such meetings will be held in public and available for in person or virtual participation and observation. These meetings after the start of session will also include oral and written public testimony.

There is no limit on the number of individuals who can participate virtually in the afternoon stakeholder session. We will have OWL technology available that will allow all virtual participants to see and hear all participants in the room. Please let us know if you need captioning or language translation services for the virtual portion of the meeting.

Because space in the Capitol is severely limited right now due to construction, there is unfortunately limited space for in person participation. We will provide information to the leadership of key stakeholder groups about the number of individuals they can designate for the in person portion. Those groups will designate the individuals they wish to attend in person and we will ensure the logistical information is provided directly to each of those designated individuals.

Thank you for your patience as we work out the logistics for this meeting. Keep your eye out for an email from my office with the needed meeting details, a handout with the description of the details of the measure that was requested and information about how to access the Friday morning Human Services, Mental Health and Recovery meeting. In addition, I will also send the exact language of the concept once I have received it.

If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to reach out to me!

Sincerely,
Sara

P.S. Please feel free to forward this email to anyone that you think might be interested. Please also feel free to share the other email that will be delivered shortly with the logistics for the meeting. We want everyone to have as much access to information as possible!

Senator Sara Gelsler Blouin
Senate Majority Whip
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