

# SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

## Department of Human Services

### Wage and Rate Study

---

To: Ways and Means Full Committee

From: Human Services Subcommittee

Carrier: Senator Campos

---

On April 8th, the Human Services Subcommittee received a report from the Department of Human Services on a comprehensive wage and rate study across home and community-based service delivery systems, as directed by a budget note.

The Department contracted with Burns and Associates to examine the wages of direct care workers and to examine provider reimbursement rates across home and community-based services programs that are administered by the Department. Based on current cost data, the study recommended the following:

- Increase base wages for direct care workers to between \$23 - \$24.50 per hour
- Increase provider reimbursement rates by an average of more than 30%
- Standardize provider rate models and payment rates across programs

To fully implement the recommendations, payments to provider agencies and direct care workers would increase by an estimated \$1.3 billion annually in total funds.

The Human Services Subcommittee recommends acknowledging receipt of the report.