

Good morning. My name is Marie Lenane. I am a Policy Pricing Analyst at the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS). I am here to present staff testimony on the proposed amendments to 101 CMR 452.00: Supplemental Rates for Workforce Investment for Certain Health and Human Services Programs.

Pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 118E, Section 13D, EOHHS is required to establish, by regulation, the rates to be paid by governmental units to providers of health care services and social service programs. The proposed amendments to this regulation are in accordance with this statutory requirement.

101 CMR 452.00 increases the rates for certain Health and Human Services programs established in other EOHHS rate regulations for the purpose of advancing the Commonwealth's initiatives of workforce investment. The proposed amendments to 101 CMR 452.00 align the end of the temporary 10% increases with the effective date of rate updates in the parent regulation for the following three services.

- **Psychological Services** (parent regulation: 101 CMR 329.00): Currently the 10% increase in 101 CMR 452.00 expires 9/30/22 because rate updates to 101 CMR 329.00 were originally expected for 10/1/22. Those rate updates are now being promulgated for 1/1/23, so the proposed amendment extends the temporary increase in 101 CMR 452.00 by three months through December 31, 2022.
- **Community Mental Health Centers** (parent regulation: 101 CMR 306.00): Currently the 10% increase in 101 CMR 452.00 expires 6/30/23. But the rate updates to 101 CMR 306.00 are intended to be promulgated for 1/1/23, so the proposed amendment to 101 CMR 452.00 shortens the temporary increase by six months, and will now be effective through December 31, 2022.
- **Individualized Treatment and Stabilization Services (ITS)** (parent regulation: 101 CMR 444.00): Currently the 10% increase in 101 CMR 452.00 expires 12/31/22. Updates to ITS rates in 101 CMR 444.00 were originally planned for 1/1/23, but have been postponed. The proposed amendment to 101 CMR 452.00 extends the temporary increase by six months to be effective through June 30, 2023, the end of the temporary increase period.

The rate amendments in 101 CMR 452.00 will be effective for dates of service on or after October 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023, and on or after January 1, 2023, through June 30, 2023. Rates no longer effective in this regulation will revert to the applicable rates set forth in the corresponding parent rate regulation for each service, as described in 101 CMR 452.00, as these rates will have undergone an up-to-date rate review.

Given the change in effective date for these rates, and the amendments to the rates in the applicable parent regulations, the total estimated fiscal effect to state government for the proposed amendments result in a savings of approximately \$1.9M attributable to MassHealth as attributable to the rates effective in this regulation. There may be a fiscal impact resulting in increases in state government spending as attributable to rate updates in the parent regulations.

This concludes my testimony. Thank you.