#### **MEMORANDUM**



DATE: February 18, 2009

**TO:** Members of the Michigan House of Representatives

**Interested Parties** 

FROM: Mitchell E. Bean, Director

RE: UPDATE on Preliminary Conference Agreement Federal Stimulus Allocations

The following provides an UPDATED summary of provisions contained in the federal stimulus package, including the names of House Fiscal Agency analysts assigned to work with Members on specific provisions in the legislation. The last page of this memo provides a table with estimates of funds available to Michigan.

**Please note** that because the federal information continues to be updated, HFA updates on the federal stimulus allocations will be sent to Members via email and posted on the HFA website, but hard copy of the update memos will not be produced. If you have any questions about the specifics of various provisions, please call either the appropriate analyst—or me.

#### COBRA Health Insurance for Unemployed Workers ......Bill Fairgrieve

The Act provides for federal subsidies to cover 65% of the COBRA premiums to enable people who have been involuntarily terminated from their jobs to maintain their prior employment based health insurance coverage for up to nine months. The subsidy is limited to workers with earnings less than \$125,000 (\$250,000 for couples). It is unknown how many potentially eligible workers in Michigan would take advantage of this option.

#### Federal Medicaid Match Rate Increase ......Bill Fairgrieve

The enacted version of the federal stimulus package provides a temporary 6.2% increase in the federal Medicaid rate (FMAP) from October 1, 2008, through December 31, 2010. The federal share of Michigan's Medicaid cost would go from 60.27% to 66.47% in FY 2008-09, and from 63.19% to 69.39% in FY 2009-10.

States with large increases in unemployment would also receive an additional increase in their FMAP rate ranging from 5.5% to 11.5% of the state's Medicaid share after certain adjustments. Based on current unemployment estimates, this would further increase Michigan's FMAP rate by between 3.5% and 4.0% in each fiscal year. The combined increase in the federal share of Michigan's Medicaid costs will lower the amount of state GF/GP funds required to maintain the program, providing savings to Michigan of nearly \$2.0 billion through December 2010. There would be further savings to hospitals and nursing homes through a reduction in the amount of provider taxes paid as part of the Quality Assurance Assessment Program (QAAP).

Because federal Medicaid claims are filed based on actual expenditures, the additional revenue is not available to the state until after the expenditures are actually incurred and meet the following conditions:

- The state does not restrict Medicaid eligibility between July 1, 2008 and December 31, 2010.
- The increase would not be available for expenditures on behalf of individuals who become Medicaid eligible through adoption of higher income or asset limits after July 1, 2008.
- The state is in compliance with federal Medicaid prompt payment requirements.
- Depositing or crediting of any funds attributable to the FMAP increase into a reserve fund or rainy day fund is prohibited.

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Based on previous estimates, the original six Medicaid regulations would result in the annual loss of nearly \$700 million in federal Medicaid funds to Michigan if implemented. Michigan's Medicaid policy is consistent with the additional outpatient hospital services regulation, and there would be no fiscal impact on the state.

obtaining a waiver. States could continue to use the existing waiver authority if they preferred. Michigan currently operates under a waiver for the provision of family planning services to the non-Medicaid low income population.

#### Health Information Technology ......Bill Fairgrieve

The legislation provides \$19.0 billion in funding for health information technology infrastructure, training, dissemination of best practices, telemedicine, inclusion of health information technology in clinical education, and state grants to promote health information technology. \$17.0 billion of the \$19.0 billion total is for financial incentives through the Medicare and Medicaid programs to encourage doctors and hospitals to adopt and use certified electronic health records. Federally qualified health centers, rural health clinics, children's hospitals and others will be eligible for funding through the Medicaid program.

Additional funding will be available for state planning and implementation grants and loan programs to expand health information technology. In 2006, Michigan established a Health Information Technology Commission to promote the establishment of an interoperable health care information infrastructure in Michigan. Currently, the FY 2008-09 DCH budget includes a \$5.0 million appropriation to support regional health information exchanges (HIEs) throughout the state and a central HIE resource center. This funding is proposed to be eliminated in the FY 2009-10 Executive Budget Recommendation.

#### Prevention and Wellness Fund .......Bill Fairgrieve

\$1.0 billion is allocated to a new Prevention and Wellness Fund with most of the funding transferred to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for various grant programs and other public health initiatives. Funding is targeted to immunization programs (\$300 million); clinical and community-based prevention and wellness strategies (\$650 million); and health care related infection prevention strategies (\$50 million). According to preliminary estimates, Michigan would receive \$9.3 million in funding for immunizations.

#### Other Health-Related Provisions ......Bill Fairgrieve

The recently-enacted federal stimulus package also includes \$1.1 billion for health care effectiveness research; \$1.5 billion for construction, modernization, and health IT improvements for federally qualified health centers (FQHCs); \$500 million for FQHC grant funding; and \$500 million for training of primary care providers.

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local agencies	will probably	be required	d to appl	y directly	to the	federal	government	for the
grant funds.								

Byrne Competitive Grants	Jan Wisniewski
\$225 million in competitive grants to support crime prevention, improv	ve the administration
of justice, provide services to victims of crime, and other activities.	Grants will likely be
distributed to state and local police agencies that apply for and qualify	for the funding.

Military Construction, Army National Guard	Jan Wisniewski
\$50 million for planning, design, and construction projects.	Funding received by Michigan
will likely be a direct allocation to the Department for specif	ic projects.

Military Construction, Air National Guard	Jan Wisniewski
\$50 million for planning, design, and construction projects.	Funding received by Michigan
will likely be a direct allocation to the Department for specifi	c projects.

Veterans Affairs Jan Wisniewski
\$150 million in grants for construction of state extended care facilities for veterans.
Funding received by Michigan will likely be a direct allocation to the Department for
specific projects.

Clean Water State Revolving Fund	Kirk Lindquist
\$3,929,999,000; Michigan's share: \$171,126,000	

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Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants
State Energy Program Grants
WIA — Adult Employment and Training Activities
WIA — Youth Activities
WIA — Displaced Worker Employment and Training Activities
Dislocated Workers National Reserve

workforce agencies; \$50.0 million. Not likely to be received by state.

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Competitive Grants for Worker Training
Employment Service Operations
Trade Adjustment Assistance
Vocational Rehabilitation Services
Independent Living, State Grants
Independent Living Centers
Services for Older Blind Individuals

The ARRA extends the duration of the extended benefits period to December 2009, so displaced workers who exhausted regular benefits or 20 weeks of extended benefits prior to the end of December 2009 are provided 20 weeks of extended benefits (if exhausting regular benefits) or 13 weeks of extended benefits (if exhausting regular compensation, 20 weeks of the extended benefits, and residing in a high unemployment state). The bill does not extend the number of additional weeks of benefits a person can receive.

Available in FYs 2009-2011. Funds used for benefits would not be subject to appropriation. The National Employment Law Project estimates that Michigan's allocation for adopting the alternate base period (which it already has) would be \$69.4 million; the remaining allocation for adopting the other changes would be \$138.9 million, for a total of \$208.3 million.

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Waives Interest Due on Title XII Cash-Flow Advances to State UI Trust Funds ... Mark Wolf Waives, through December 2010, any interest due on advances made to state unemployment trust funds necessary to meet costs of providing benefits. According to public testimony for the UIA director, Michigan is estimated to owe \$41.0 million in interest payments in FY 2009.

Transportation......Bill Hamilton

The stimulus package includes funding for ready-to-go transportation projects—highway, transit, rail passenger, and aeronautics programs. The funding amounts described below are from the Federal Funds Information for States (FFIS) and represent the total appropriation/allocation for the funding periods covered by the stimulus package.

Highways - Conference report appropriates \$27.5 billion for highway infrastructure:

- Distributed to states according to current federal-aid highway formula.
- Requires FHWA to apportion to states within 21 days of the enactment.
- Available through September 30, 2010

State is required to obligate (funds are obligated for a specific eligible project) 50% percent of the funds within 120 days. Funds are obligated prior to bid letting, contract award, and construction. Michigan's estimated share would be \$847,502,000 (per FFIS, 2/17/2009). This additional federal funding will have to be appropriated by supplemental state appropriation.

Funds will be allocated based on existing federal requirements, which includes suballocation of certain program funds by population, and state statue (Public Act 51 of 1951 requires that 25% of most federal aid programs be allocated to local road agencies). MDOT is currently soliciting local federal aid projects. Priority is given to projects can be completed within three years, and are within economically distressed areas. Federal aid would be at 100% of eligible project cost; there would be no match requirement. (Federal-aid highway programs typically require a 20% non-federal match.) While the funds are available over two fiscal years (2009 and 2010), the funds are not allocated over the two-year fiscal period; the department can spend all the funds in 2009, if it is able to get projects under contract quickly enough.

Transit—The Conference Report appropriates \$6.9 billion in federal capital assistance to transit agencies, of which 80% or \$5.5 billion would be distributed to agencies in urbanized areas by formula (Section 5307). The urbanized area funds are distributed directly to urban transit agencies. The bill would allocate 10%, approximately \$600 million, using rural area formula (Section 5311). (Another 10% would be distributed under Section 5340—a formula grant program for both urban and rural area transit agencies.) These grants would purchase buses and other equipment.

The FFIS website estimates Michigan's share of transit capital funding at \$165,008,000. An updated estimate of the urban formula/ rural formula distribution is not available at this time. Note that since transit agencies in urbanized areas have direct access to federal funds, the urban formula grants would not have to be appropriated in state budget bills. The bill would require obligation of 50% of funds within 180 days. Funds would be available until September 30, 2012.

Aeronautics—The package provides \$1.1 billion in discretionary funding nation-wide for the Secretary to make discretionary Grants in Aid for Airports. The bill requires that projects be obligated within 120 days. Additional funds for Michigan will require state appropriation.

Other Provisions—The bill also provides non-formula grants: \$1.5 billion nationally for discretionary surface transportation grants; and \$750 million for fixed guideway modernization grants (for light rail or bus rapid transit). FFIS shows Michigan receiving only \$421,000 — significantly less than other urbanized states.

Of the 81.8% (\$1.31 billion for Michigan) directed towards K-12/Higher Education, the first allocation must be used to maintain the greater of FY 2007-08 or FY 2008-09 funding levels for K-12/Higher Education funding in FYs 2009-10 and 2010-11. (Higher Education includes appropriations to public universities and community colleges but not state financial aid programs.)

The balance of funds remaining, after funding levels are restored, is earmarked for education and would go to K-12 purposes including early childhood programs. Specifically, it would be distributed to districts based on their Federal Title I allocations. Districts could use the funds for any activity authorized by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, the Adult and Family Literacy Act, or the Perkins Career and Technical Education Act or for modernization, renovation or repair of public school facilities.

The state allocations also include maintenance-of-effort (MOE) requirements that "state support" for both K-12 and Higher Education must maintain at least FY 2005-06 funding levels. For Higher Education, there is currently a buffer of about \$65 million

that the FY 2008-09 budget is over the FY 2005-06 budget. For K-12, there is currently a buffer of about \$386.5 million (after adjusting for January pupils and taxable value changes).

In addition to the state allocations described above, \$5.0 billion of the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund is reserved for competitive grants to states that have made significant progress by FY 2009-10 in achieving equity in teacher distribution, improving data collection and use, and improving academic assessments. It is unclear how much of this Michigan might receive.

The state may use the 18.2% (\$291 million for Michigan) remaining for public safety and other government services which may include further assistance for K-12 and Higher Education including modernization, renovation, or repair of public school facilities or institution of higher education facilities.

- Approximately 38.7% will go out as formula grants to be used for current Title I purposes.
- 38.7% will be used for education finance incentive grants distributed through the current formula of which states should use a portion of the funds for early childhood programs.
- 22.6% to be used for school improvement grants to districts failing to meet NCLB requirements of which states are encouraged to use up to 40% for middle and high school students.

Additionally, there is IDEA (special education) funding of \$419.5 million for FYs 2009-10 and 2010-11 in formula grants including preschool grants and grants to infants and toddlers.

There is approximately \$24.0 million for Michigan in Education Technology grants to be used in FYs 2009-10 and 2010-11; \$2.45 million for education for homeless youth and children grants; and Teacher Incentive funding available to states to develop and implement innovative principal and teacher compensation models for recruitment and retention efforts in high-need schools and subjects.

The state, with approval of the Secretary of Education, may treat state fiscal stabilization funds as non-federal funds for any requirement for any other federal education program related to MOE or the Secretary of Education may waive or modify any requirement related to MOE for a state or school district for FYs 2008-09, 2009-10, and 2010-11.

Provides additional federal funding for food assistance program administrative expenses based on state's share of food assistance households as reported through the most recent 12 months. 75% based on states share of households, and 25% based on change in caseload. Michigan allocation = \$12,441,500 gross; \$6,142,600 for FY 09; \$6,298,900 for FY 10

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\$2 billion in new funding for child care and child development programs. The bulk of this funding goes toward child day care subsidies, however some federal funding is also used for programs and services delivered through the Early Childhood Investment Corporation (ECIC). Bill specifies funding is to supplement and not supplant GF/GP for child care assistance. Michigan allocation = \$58,681,000 gross; \$29,340,500 for FY 09; \$29,340,500 for FY 10

\$7.2 billion is appropriated for broadband infrastructure improvements; the amount available for individual states is not currently available. According to the U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations, the broadband funding is to be used to increase broadband access and usage in unserved and underserved areas of the United States. The goal is to help encourage economic growth and job creation.

The ARRA Conference agreement appropriates \$7.2 billion for broadband infrastructure improvements. The Act would create a new Broadband Technology Opportunities Program within the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) of the U.S. Department of Commerce. The funds would be used in two ways: 1) a new grant program will distribute \$4.7 billion for deployment of broadband infrastructure in unserved and underserved areas in the U.S. (grant funds will be distributed through a competitive grant process) and would also be used to assist greater broadband use and development (grant funds will be distributed through a competitive grant process); 2) an additional \$2.5 billion would be distributed through loans, grants, and loan guarantees by the Rural Utilities Service within the U.S. Department of Agriculture (distributed based on a list of priorities). This would fund infrastructure that serves rural areas

primarily and priority would be given to projects that can being promptly after enactment. (Projects that receive this funding would be ineligible to receive funding from the Broadband Deployment Grant Program.)

National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) ............Viola Bay Wild The NTIA program in the Conference agreement requires the Federal Communications Commission to develop a national broadband plan within one year. The NTIA Grant program would distribute \$4.7 billion funding and requires the following grant recipient criteria:

- Any entity may apply for a grant, including municipalities, public/private partnerships, and private companies, but each entity must comply with the grant conditions. Entities must provide 20% of the proposed project's total cost—a financial hardship waiver is available. \$4.35 billion is available until September 30, 2010, for competitive grants to expand broadband deployment in unserved and underserved areas. \$200 million of this funding is designated for the expansion of public computer center capacity, including at community colleges and public libraries, and \$250 million is designated for projects that encourage sustainable broadband adoption.
- Conditions of grants include adhering to a build-out schedule and to interconnection and non-discrimination requirements that are established by the NTIA. Grant recipients are not required to meet certain broadband speed thresholds, but the NTIA is expected to consider and encourage the highest possible broadband speeds.
- The bill appropriates the remaining \$350 million to the NTIA for a grant program that
  was authorized last year to fund projects in states that improve and create
  inventories of broadband communications and services and to help develop a national
  broadband inventory map.

- At least 75% of area shall be in a rural area without sufficient access to high speed broadband service to aid economic development; this determination shall be made by the Secretary of Agriculture.
- Priority shall be given to projects that will deliver users a choice of more than one service provider, provide service to the highest proportion of rural residents that do not have broadband access, and can commence promptly after approval.
- Secretary of Agriculture shall submit to Legislative Appropriations Committees a report on planned spending and use of these funds no later than 90 days after Act is enacted and quarterly thereafter until all funds are committed.

# Preliminary Conference Agreement Stimulus Allocations (MICHIGAN) (\$\$ in thousands)

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Fiscal Stabilization Education*		\$1,309,834	\$39,743,346
Fiscal Stablization - General Purpose (Flex Fund)	)	\$294,677	\$8,842,652
Medicaid (GAO estimates)		\$2,270,000	\$87,135,000
Highways & Bridges		\$847,205	\$26,810,000
Transit Capital Grants		\$134,823	\$6,733,700
Rail Modernization (Fixed Guideway)		\$133	\$742,500
Drinking Water SRF		\$67,976	\$1,965,190
Clean Water SRF		\$171,126	\$3,929,999
Weatherization		\$279,864	\$5,000,000
State Energy Program		\$109,986	\$3,100,000
Emergency Food & Shelter		\$5,308	\$99,000
Commodity Assistance/ TEFAP		\$4,083	\$100,000
Prevention Health BG		N/A	N/A
Immunization		\$9,298	\$300,000
Foster Care/Adoption Assistance**		\$53,386	\$843,468
Elderly Nutrition		\$3,448	\$97,711
Child Care		\$58,681	\$1,955,092
Head Start		\$21,992	\$663,262
Community Services BG		\$36,843	\$979,623
Title I – Grants to LEAs		\$386,863	\$9,927,096
Title I – School Improvement Grants		\$112,650	\$2,980,018
Special Education – Part B		\$400,608	\$11,334,855
Special Education - Part C		\$10,176	\$354,210
Voc. Rehab.		\$16,809	\$486,849
Ed. Tech.		\$23,767	\$630,794
McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance		\$2,452	\$70,000
School Lunch Equipment		\$2,490	\$89,913
Public Housing Capital Fund		\$53,737	\$2,999,045
HOME		\$49,805	\$1,754,503
Homelessness Prevention		\$53,408	\$1,496,998
Crime Victims Assitance		\$1,922	\$94,998
Internet Crimes Against Children		\$969	\$49,992
Violence Against Women		\$7,050	\$225,000
Byrne/JAG		\$67,875	\$1,978,400
UI State Admin Grants		\$16,060	\$499,975
Employment Service		\$14,195	\$397,062
Community Service for Older Americans		\$3,889	\$120,000
WIA-Adult		\$31,169	\$500,000
WIA-Youth		\$74,696	\$1,182,000
Dislocated Workers		\$137,711	\$1,250,000
	Total	\$7,141,453	\$227,461,482

<sup>\*</sup> Includes funding for school modernization. FFIS total does not reflect \$5 billion in state incentive grants.

\*\* HFA estimates.

Source: FFIS 2/17/2009