FLOOR AMENDMENT EXPLANATION

1. Permits the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) to authorize payments to behavioral health service providers, providers of services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), and providers of services to the elderly and individuals with physical disabilities to ensure providers maintain a capacity that allows for the continuation of services during the declaration of public health emergency associated with the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). Such payments must be implemented in a manner that maintains federal financial participation eligibility.

2. Establishes the following, if necessary and approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, regarding an interruption or reduction of services for individuals with IDD and behavioral health services for AHCCCS members associated with COVID-19:

3. Directs the Department of Economic Security (DES) and AHCCCS to authorize payments to service providers for absences that are in excess of the average number of authorized absences experienced by a provider during the year preceding the month of the declaration of the COVID-19 public health emergency.

4. Prohibits DES, during the COVID-19 public health emergency, from requiring a service provider to resubmit training and fingerprinting documentation to provide services to individuals with IDD if the information has previously submitted by a service provider and the documentation demonstrates compliance.

5. Authorizes DES to temporarily increase provider reimbursement rates for services for individuals with IDD to fund increased overtime expenses and loss experiences by service providers associated with COVID-19.

6. Adds an emergency clause.

Amendment explanation prepared by Cherie Stone

3/19/20
CARTER FLOOR AMENDMENT #3

SENATE AMENDMENTS TO S.B. 1688

(Reference to printed bill)

1 Page 5, after line 45, insert:

"Sec. 11. Arizona long-term care system; developmental
 disability services; behavioral health services;
 provider payments; provider training portability

A. On approval of the centers for medicare and medicaid services, if
 necessary:

1. For services to an individual with an intellectual and
 developmental disability who is a member as defined in section 36-2931,
 Arizona Revised Statutes, that are contracted by or provided by the
 department of economic security and that have been stopped or reduced by
 the parent or guardian of the member, by the member or by the service
 provider in response to the declared public health emergency related to the
 coronavirus disease 2019, the Arizona health care cost containment system
 and the department of economic security shall authorize payment for
 absences that are a direct result of the declared public health emergency
 related to the coronavirus disease 2019, that are in excess of the average
 number of absences experienced by the service provider during the
 twelve-month period immediately preceding the month in which the public
 health emergency was declared and that are authorized in the member's
 individual service plan.

2. For behavioral health services provided to an Arizona health care
 cost containment system member by a registered service provider that have
 been canceled, missed, stopped or reduced by the parent or guardian of the
 member, by the member or by the service provider in response to the
 declared public health emergency related to the coronavirus disease 2019,
 the Arizona health care cost containment system shall authorize payment for

- 1 -
absences that are a direct result of the declared public health emergency related to the coronavirus disease 2019, that are in excess of the average number of absences experienced by the service provider during the twelve-month period immediately preceding the month in which the public health emergency was declared and that are authorized in the member's individual service plan.

3. During the declared public health emergency related to the coronavirus disease 2019, the department of economic security may not require a service provider to resubmit training requirement documentation or fingerprint documentation in order for an employee to provide services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities if the employee has had that information submitted on the employee's behalf by another service provider and is current on both the training and fingerprinting requirements.

4. The department of economic security may temporarily increase provider reimbursement rates for services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities within the department's expenditure authority for fiscal year 2019-2020 in order to provide additional funding for increased overtime expenses that service providers experience due to the loss of staff during the declared public health emergency for the coronavirus disease 2019 during fiscal year 2019-2020.

B. The Arizona health care cost containment system administration may authorize payments to providers of behavioral health services and providers of services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and individuals who are elderly or have physical disabilities in order to ensure that providers maintain capacity to continue to provide services during the declared public health emergency for the coronavirus disease 2019. The administration shall implement payments to providers in a manner that ensures federal financial participation eligibility for the expenditures and is within the administration's expenditure authority for fiscal year 2019-2020.
Sec. 12. Emergency

This act is an emergency measure that is necessary to preserve the public peace, health or safety and is operative immediately as provided by law."

Amend title to conform