SENATE HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE Monday, January 25, 2016

ATTACHMENT 2

Idaho Association of Community Providers

William Benkula, President Idaho Association of Community Providers (IACP) P. O. Box 1862 Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

January 25,2016

Idaho Senate Health and Welfare Committee members:

My name is Bill Benkula, I am the current president of the Idaho Association of Community providers.

Recently, sixty–four (64) local business, associations and community organizations joined forces in Idaho to form the Idaho Association of Community Providers (IACP). Our Association consists of providers of Mental Health Services, Substance Abuse Treatment and Recovery Services, Developmental Disability Agency Services, Case Management Services, and Residential Habilitation–Supported Living Services that share a common goal and objective to ensure that quality community–based services are person–centered, least restrictive, most accessible, offer choice and are functional through education and on–going advocacy. As the President of this group, I stand here giving our association's support to Docket 16-0310-1501.

It should be noted however, that these rules are written in broad terms and can be wide open to various interpretations and applications. We therefore formally ask that the various sub-types of our association be involved in the implementation of these rules. While the department states that there will be no fiscal impact in approving these rules, if not done with costs in mind, they could well result in additional expenses for the various business that contract with the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare and the department itself.

We have strived to become a working partner with the department in our short history and look forward to continue to develop this relationships through further collaboration. With that said Rr. chair, members of the committee, I stand for questions

William Benkula, President

Idaho Association of Community Providers (IACP)

P. O. Box 1862, Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

(208) 734-4344 ext 108

bbenkula@hotmail.com