TESTIMONY ON HB 2424

January 19, 2012

My interest in House Bill 2424 is really quite simple. For several years we in the Legislature have been made aware of the conflict of interest that exists between CDDOs and other community providers through Post Audits which were done both in 1999 and 2003. With recent fraud cases coming to the forefront regarding Home and Community Based service providers, it seems very logical we should address the need to have more accountability in the system.

HB 2424 will merely eliminate the conflict by still allowing CDDOs to be the gate-keepers and the evaluators for service qualifications. The contractors for providing the services will not change, but this new process will provide more eyes on the system and therefore prevent fraud and abuse in the system as we have seen in recent months. If case management is separate from the evaluations, consumers will have a true choice of service providers and agencies will be set up in more of a free market environment to compete on a level playing field.

With that, Mr. Chairman, I stand for questions.