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State of Connecticut
Human Services Committee
Hartford, Connecticut

February 10, 2011

Proposed H.B. No. 5561 AN ACT ALLOWING CHILDREN TO ACCOMPANY THEIR PARENTS TO MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS UNDER THE MEDICAID PROGRAM.

LogistiCare Solutions, LLC is a Non Emergency Transportation Broker contracted with the Connecticut Department of Social Services to coordinate approximately 29,162 monthly roundtrip transportation requests for Title 19 Medicaid Recipients with in 4 of the 5 regions in the state.

As General Manager responsible for managing the LogistiCare Operations in the State of Connecticut and with the understanding, knowledge and partnership with DSS regarding the Medicaid Program, below is information I respectfully ask you to review and consider.

LogistiCare respectfully requests your opposition to HB 5561, An Act Allowing Children to accompany their Parents to Medical Appointments. While the intent of the proposal is surely well meaning, its passage would raise a number of serious concerns; not least of which is safety.

Please consider the following safety, liability, cost, capacity, and legal challenges LogistiCare and any other broker would face as well as questions raised with allowing children to accompany their parents to medical appointments:

- ✓ There would be an impact to Medicaid Recipient shared ride opportunities
- ✓ The number of Car Seats required for one vehicle for children (various ages and weight) may be problematic if there is a need for multiple children.
- ✓ The number of children will impact the number and type of vehicles needed to transport (We would need / require more providers with Vans, which is an increased cost to the provider for use of a more expensive vehicle as well as an increase to transportation expenses)
- ✓ If a child is handicapped this will require a higher level of service (Livery versus Wheel chair). Wheel chair vehicles cannot accommodate more than one additional passenger.
- ✓ Many trips associated with substance involving more potential conflict. With Methadone trips, children are not allowed in Methadone clinics – who will watch the child while the parent goes in for medication at the Methadone clinic? The same conflict would apply for other NEMT appointments such as Mental Health, etc.
- ✓ What if the child does not reside with the parent or the child is at school (Parent has an afternoon appointment), will NEMT be required to pick up parent and child/children at different locations?
- ✓ How will we know if the children belong to the Medicaid rider (i.e. Day Care providers) – LGTC has received requests from Day Care providers in the past where the Day Care provider is the Medicaid recipient but the children are at the Medicaid members location for day care services
- ✓ If there is an accident the insurance risk for LGTC, transportation providers, and the state will be elevated
- ✓ Potential breach of CMS-State Waiver guidelines

Given all the safety, cost, and quality concerns that this bill raises, we would ask that the Committee take no further action on HB 5561.

Thank you for your consideration