



ARKANSAS
DEPARTMENT OF
**HUMAN
SERVICES**

DHS Secretary Mark White
Office of the Secretary

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October 11, 2022

Hon. Terry Rice, Co-Chair
Hon. Jeff Wardlaw, Co-Chair
Arkansas Legislative Council
1 Capitol Mall, Fifth Floor
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Dear Senator Rice and Representative Wardlaw:

As directed by Section 15 of Act 213 of 2022, I am reporting to Arkansas Legislative Council the status of our efforts to increase the reimbursement rates for assisted living facilities under the Living Choices Assisted Living Waiver. Last month, the Governor approved the proposed administrative rule change to implement the rate increase. The proposed rule was published for public comment on September 25, and the public comment period will run through October 24. A public hearing was held on October 10. To date we have received no public comments on the proposed rule.

We anticipate that the proposed rule will come before Arkansas Legislative Council for review in December. We will be working with CMS to pursue final waiver approval in time for a January 1 effective date.

Legislators are welcome to reach out with any questions, comments, or concerns. Members may contact me at 501-320-6009 or mark.white@dhs.arkansas.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. White'.

Mark White
Secretary of Human Services