

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS OFFICE OF MEDICAID ONE ASHBURTON PLACE, BOSTON, MA 02108



MAURA T. HEALEY GOVERNOR KATHLEEN E. WALSH SECRETARY

KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR MIKE LEVINE
ASSISTANT SECRETARY
FOR MASSHEALTH

September 25, 2024

Secretary, Matthew Gorzkowicz Executive Office for Administration and Finance State House, Room 212 Boston, MA 02133

Chair, Michael J. Rodrigues Senate Committee on Ways and Means State House, Room 212 Boston, MA 02133

Chair, Aaron Michlewitz House Committee on Ways and Means State House, Room 243 Boston, MA 02133

Dear Secretary Gorzkowicz, Chair Rodrigues, and Chair Michlewitz,

Section 93 of Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023 states:

Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the secretary of administration and finance, in consultation with the secretary of health and human services, may transfer not more than a total of \$25,000,000 from the prescription advantage program in item 9110-1455 of section 2 and the Health Safety Net Trust Fund established in section 66 of chapter 118E of the General Laws in fiscal year 2024 to support the Medicare Saving or Medicare Buy-In programs established in section 25A of said chapter 118E; provided, however, that not less than 45 days in advance of the transfer, the secretary of health and human services shall certify in writing to the house and senate committees on ways and means the amount to be transferred and an explanation of the amount of expected savings to those programs resulting from the transfer.

I hereby certify that for state fiscal year 2024, the transfer from the prescription advantage program in item 9110-1455 to the General Fund should be \$0, and the transfer from the Health Safety Net Trust

Fund to the General Fund should be \$7,700,000. When the Medicare Savings Program eligibility changes took effect on January 1, 2020, some individuals became newly eligible for MassHealth coverage of Medicare cost sharing, while others became newly eligible for federal Part D prescription drug benefits. The certified transfer amount reflects the estimated reduction in demand on the Health Safety Net as a result of this coverage expansion. I hereby request that Secretary Gorzkowicz initiate the transfer from the Health Safety Net with the Office of the Comptroller.

Sincerely,

Mike Levine

Assistant Secretary for MassHealth

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Cc: Kathleen E. Walsh, Secretary, Executive Office of Health and Human Services