

## Governor's 2009 budget proposal health impact

February 4, 2009

### DSS budget cuts:

Medicaid cuts of \$283 million (6.8%) for 2009/10 and \$317 m (7.2%) for 2010/11

SAGA cuts \$13 m (5%) for 2009/10 and \$14 m (6.5%) for 2010/11

HUSKY cut \$20 m from this year's spending levels

Savings		Cut	How
2009/10	2010/11		
\$8.5 m	\$10.5 m	Medicaid Copays	No details, ≤ 5% income, from \$0.50 to \$5.70, cap drug copays at \$20/mon, (federal rules) some services excluded, not for some children, people < 100% FPL, SSI, pregnant women, breast/cervical cancer patients, and persons in institutions
8.8 m	9.3 m	Premiums for HUSKY adults	Sliding scale, up to 10 or 20% of cost, not for people < 100% FPL, SSI, pregnant women, people in hospice
1.5 m	1.6 m	Increase HUSKY B premiums for children	For working families 236% - 300% FPL -- up from monthly \$30/child and \$50 family max; to \$50 for one child, \$75 for two children, and \$100 for more
22.7 m	28 m	Eliminate most dental care for Medicaid and SAGA adults	Will only cover emergency dental care
23.6 m	24.5 m	Eliminate coverage for legal immigrants	Now fully state funded if here less than 5 years, Will only pay for current emergency Medicaid (labor & delivery only)
4.5 m	9 m	Weaken medical necessity definition	Makes it far more difficult to access needed services
2 m	2 m	Eliminate self declaration of income in HUSKY application	Creates arbitrary paperwork burden on HUSKY applicants, no evidence of fraud in program
2 m	2 m	Eliminate clinic funding for pregnant undocumented immigrants	Recently passed, to provide pre-natal care to future citizens rather than wait to provide care only at delivery
115 m	166 m	Lower rate increase for nursing homes	
5.5 m	6 m	Eliminate interpretation	

		services	
1.6 m	4.1 m	Delay implementation of HIV/AIDS waiver	
1.1 m	1.2 m	Eliminate SAGA vision and transportation	
54.7 m	59.4 m	Medicare Part D cuts	
17.2 m	20.3 m	Pharmacy cuts	
Good news			
\$1.7 m	\$1.8 m	Eliminate payment for “never events”	Preventable serious hospital errors i.e. surgery at the wrong site, mismatch transfusions, mirrors Medicare policy

**DPH cuts:**

Savings		Cut	How
2009/10	2010/11		
\$2.7 m	\$2.7 m	Roll back AIDS services	
2 m	2m	Cuts to community health clinics	Eliminate recent expansions of services
2.6 m	2.8 m	Cuts to local health dept.s	Regionalize local health services
1.5 m	1.5 m	Cuts to school based health centers	Eliminate recent expansions of services
477,225	477,225	Cuts to public health programs	10% cuts to needle exchange, community AIDS services, children’s health, services for children affected by AIDS, children with special health care needs, genetic disease program
708,365	708,365	Cuts to loan forgiveness program	Program to help train nurses and other health care professionals in short supply

**Other cuts:**

Savings		Cut	How
2009/10	2010/11		
\$1 m	\$1 m	Eliminate Office of Health Care Advocate	OHA not funded through General Fund but from assessments on insurers, if cut \$ would be returned to insurers, plus savings to HMOs of \$5 m recovered by OHA on behalf of consumers last year

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<http://www.ct.gov/opm/cwp/view.asp?a=2958&Q=432642&PM=1>