



STATE OF WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

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May 25, 2017

Sent via Electronic Mail Only

TO: Greg Devereux, Executive Director
Brendan Crowley, Labor Advocate
WFSE Language Access Providers Local 1671

FROM: Diane Lutz, Labor Relations Section Chief
State Human Resources

**RE: NOTICE OF BUDGET CONTINGENCY PLANS AFFECTING
LANGUAGE ACCESS PROVIDERS**

Although we expect that the 2017-19 operating and capital budgets will be enacted prior to June 30, 2017, state agencies have engaged in contingency planning for the possibility that appropriations are not timely enacted. Part of this contingency planning is to identify which state government services will continue and which services will be suspended should budgets not be enacted by June 30, 2017.

Agencies submitted their contingency plans to the Office of Financial Management (OFM). OFM has posted the contingency plans at the following link: www.ofm.wa.gov/contingency. OFM is also preparing a summary of potential state agency impacts, which will be posted shortly. The summary is a high-level overview and may be subject to change. We will provide more detailed information as it becomes available.

Possible Impacts to Language Access Providers

In accordance with Article 10 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the State of Washington and the Washington Federation of State Employees covering language access providers at Medicaid and Department of Social and Health Services appointments, please accept this notice regarding possible impacts to working conditions.

In the event that a budget is not enacted by June 30, 2017, the State will discontinue providing interpreter services for Medicaid appointments beginning July 1, 2017. This will result in the cancellation of Medicaid appointments scheduled after June 30, 2017 and an overall reduction in the number of appointments available to interpreters.

If the WFSE feel that this impacts a mandatory subject of bargaining and would like to file a demand to bargain on this matter, please send a bargaining demand as soon as possible via email to labor.relations@ofm.wa.gov.