Testimony
Human Services Committee
Representative Chuck Damschen, Chairman
August 28, 2014

Chairman Damschen, and members of the Human Services Committee, I am Carol Cartledge, Director of Economic Assistance Policy Division of the Department of Human Services (DHS). I am here today to provide you an update regarding increasing eligibility for the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) from 50% to 85% of state median income.

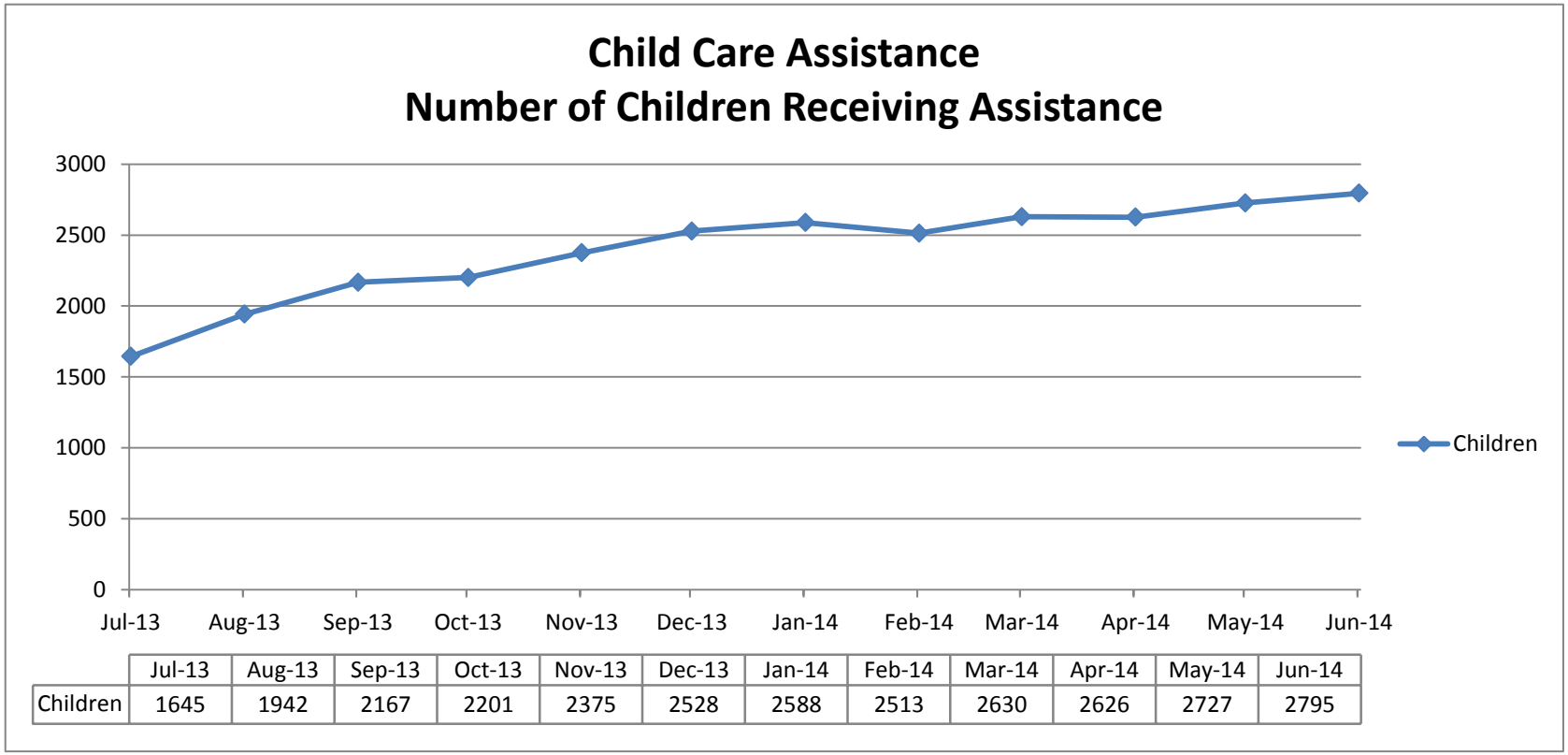
The increase to 85% of state median income affected families not eligible for the TANF programs. This change means a family of three can now have a gross income up to $4,915 per month to qualify. Previously the limit was $3,074 per month. In addition, on July 1, 2013, the family co-payments were reduced from 3% to 7% of gross family monthly income to 1% to 6% of gross family monthly income. DHS is estimating to spend all CCAP grants appropriated in the 2013-2015 biennium and therefore did not further reduce co-payments on July 1, 2014, as authorized in 2013 HB 1422.

See the Child Care Assistance caseload chart on Attachment A.

The average monthly CCAP payment per child per month from July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014, was $331.32.

DHS is in the process of developing a survey to collect information from child care providers to understand how the additional CCAP funding was used in their operations.

This concludes my testimony, and I would be happy to answer any questions.



	Jul-13	Aug-13	Sep-13	Oct-13	Nov-13	Dec-13	Jan-14	Feb-14	Mar-14	Apr-14	May-14	Jun-14
Children	1645	1942	2167	2201	2375	2528	2588	2513	2630	2626	2727	2795