

Please Contact Senate Appropriations Committee To STOP Changes to MATP

Changes are in the works (read news release at the bottom of the page) to the Medical Assistance Transportation Program which will take jobs and funding from county governments and disrupt service for persons with disabilities and seniors in our area.

Senate Bill 390, which would stop the changes, is being considered by the Senate Appropriations Committee now and needs to be brought forward next Monday, May 6. We need your help!

Please call the Senators below (today!), who are all members of the Appropriations Committee, and ask them to support Senate Bill 390 and have it move through the Appropriations Committee so that it can be adopted by the State Legislature. See Script below.

Call Script:

Hello, my name is [YOUR NAME] and I am resident of [YOUR COUNTY]. I am calling today to ask that Senator [SENATOR'S NAME] please support Senate Bill 390 which would stop the changes to MATP. We can't afford those changes in our county. Please move the bill out of committee and send it to the floor for a vote.

Thank you!

Please call Senators Who Have NOT Co-Sponsored SB 390

Last Name	First Name	Email	Capitol Office #
Hughes	Vincent	hughes@pasenate.com	(717) 787-7112
Browne	Patrick	pbrowne@pasen.gov	(717) 787-1349
Corman	Jake	jcorman@pasen.gov	(717) 787-1377
Laughlin	Daniel	Dlaughlin@pasen.gov	(717) 787-8927
Phillips-Hill	Kristin	senatorkristin@pasenate.com	(717) 787-7085
Costa	Jay	costa@pasenate.com	(717) 787-7683
Haywood	Art	senatorhaywood@pasenate.com	(717) 787-1427
Street	Sharif	info@senatorsharifstreet.com	(717) 787-6735

Please call Senators Who Have NOT Co-Sponsored SB 390

Last Name	First Name	Email	Capitol Office #
Ward	Kim	kward@pasen.gov	(717) 787-6063
Scarnati	Joseph	jscarnati@pasen.gov	(717) 787-7084
Argall	David	dargall@pasen.gov	(717) 787-2637
Aument	Ryan	raument@pasen.gov	(717) 787-4420
Killion	Thomas	tkillion@pasen.gov	(717) 787-4712
Langerhold	Wayne	Wlangerholc@pasen.gov	(717) 787-5400
Martin	Scott	smartin@pasen.gov	(717) 787-6535
Mensch	Bob	bmensch@pasen.gov	(717) 787-3110
Scavello	Mario	mscavello@pasen.gov	(717) 787-6123
Vogel	Elder	evogel@pasen.gov	(717) 787-3076
Yaw	Gene	eyaw@pasen.gov	(717) 787-3280
Schwank	Judith	SenatorSchwank@pasenate.com	(717) 787-8925
Blake	John	senatorblake@pasenate.com	(717) 787-6481
Collett	Maria	senatorcollett@pasenate.com	(717) 787-6599
Leach	Daylin	senatorleach@pasenate.com	(717) 787-5544
Santarsiero	Steven	senatorsantarsiero@pasenate.com	(717) 787-7305

The Department of Human Services is about to award a contract to a brokerage firm thereby taking local control of services away from counties. This bill would stop the award of a contract and needs to be moved on immediately.

For more information, call Commissioner Jeff Eggleston at 814-706-8343.

News Release Explaining Situation

[Pennsylvania Commissioners Urge the State Legislature to Stop MATP Changes](#) *Support for Senate Bill 390 Grows*

Thursday, May 2, 2019 | Warren, PA – County Commissioners in 11 counties across the state, representing over a million citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, have signed resolutions opposing changes that are currently underway in the State which would turn the MATP (Medical Assistance Transportation Program) in Pennsylvania into a state-wide or regional “Full-Risk Brokerage System”. Another five Counties have also sent letters to the Legislature in response to an amendment to the Human Services Fiscal Code made last June 2018 which forced Department of Human Services to switch models.

All of these Counties have voiced support for Senate Bill 390, which would halt the award of a contract with a brokerage firm by Pennsylvania Department of Human Services. That bill has been referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee, chaired by Senator Pat Browne (Lehigh County), and must be moved through the committee on Monday, May 6 for a floor vote. 16 of the 24 Senators on the Appropriations Committee have co-sponsored the bill, which bodes well for SB390’s chances. Nonetheless, the aforementioned Counties are urging the Committee Members to affirm this bill and give it a vote on the floor.

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 mandates that in any area where fixed-bus route service is offered, door-to-door service to the elderly, the disabled and other people who cannot use or access the regular bus service must also be offered. In Warren County, this system is managed through a joint partnership between Forest-Warren Human Services and the Transit Authority of Warren County (TAWC).

With the state change, local administration will be removed and some form of statewide, regional, or even multi-national for-profit company will take over managing MATP services. This would result in loss of consistency of service for a vulnerable population, including seniors and persons with disabilities. Local jobs would be lost and revenue would decline due to the shift in management dollars outside the County.

Warren County Commissioner, Jeff Eggleston, who drafted Warren County's resolution, expressed serious concerns over the changes to MATP saying, "If other rollouts of brokered models are any indication, this is going to create serious problems for some of our most vulnerable constituents as we lose service quality, consistency, and experience reduced levels of service."

Aside from the Counties that signed resolutions (Armstrong, Butler, Cambria, Cameron, Chester, Forest, Jefferson, Snyder, Venango, Warren, Wayne) and the Counties which have publicly opposed the changes (Bradford, Elk, Lackawanna, Sullivan, Tioga), multiple agencies have opposed the changes including Erie Metropolitan Transit Authority, Crawford Area Transportation Authority, Transit Authority of Warren County, Best Transit, Pennsylvania Public Transit Association (PPTA) and the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania (CCAP).

It is important that citizens contact all of the Senators in the House Appropriations Committee and request they throw their support behind SB 390 which would stop the changes being made to MATP services and allow for greater review of the matter at the state level.

If you have any questions or comments about this news article, please feel free to call (814-728-3403) or email (jeff.eggleston@warren-county.net) at your convenience.

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