



**OFFICE OF LT. GOVERNOR**  
**SUZANNE CROUCH**  
STATE HOUSE, ROOM 333  
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-2732  
scrouch@lg.in.gov  
(317) 232-4545

February 20, 2024

Dr. Daniel Rusyniak, Secretary  
Family and Social Services Administration  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Secretary Rusyniak,

I continue to be very concerned about FSSA's proposed changes to Medicaid Waivers that would impact medically fragile children and their families. Numerous families are reaching out to my office, specifically on the attendant care issue, and I feel compelled to learn more about the decision FSSA is making.

On January 29, I sent a letter asking for some data and numbers on the proposed changes. To date, I have not received an answer to my letter but wanted to follow-up with additional questions:

1. I'd like to understand how structured family caregiving is appropriate for people with complex medical needs.
2. Please provide data/information that will give families confidence that provider capacity exists for the pediatric population.
3. Please consider including attendant care by legally responsible adults on the new Health and Wellness Waiver. Many families have suggested tiers for attendant care services, realizing there needs to be guidelines. This would go a long way to ensuring the state is making the best use of the program and recognizing that those Hoosiers with the greatest need are provided the most appropriate support. Might FSSA consider tiers for attendant care services and new tiers for structured family caregiving to ensure appropriate care for people with complex medical needs?

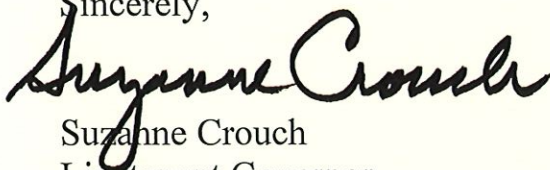
4. What safeguards are in place to ensure that families are not forced to turn to institutional care through nursing facilities or group homes?

Let me be clear: I, too, want a fiscally responsible solution. I understand that unintended consequences occurred through such practices as automatic approvals. But to completely dismantle the Attendant Care program because of a few unintended consequences would be detrimental to the families who rely on these vital services.

As I hear from families, it seems that we owe them answers to these questions and it is certainly our responsibility as a state to ensure that we are providing the best and most appropriate care for our most vulnerable Hoosiers.

As you have made yourself available for meetings with legislators, I'm also requesting a meeting, on or before Thursday, February 29<sup>th</sup>, with you and your staff and some of the families who would be affected by these proposed changes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Suzanne Crouch". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Suzanne Crouch  
Lieutenant Governor

cc: Governor Eric Holcomb  
IDD Task Force Members