

Jackson, MS – Medicaid Executive Director Rica Lewis-Payton today released information regarding the impact of potential cuts in optional nursing home services to Medicaid recipients across Mississippi.

“People have questioned whether or not these cuts will have a real impact, but the truth is these cuts are going to be real and they are going to have a devastating effect on thousands of Medicaid recipients,” said Lewis-Payton. “With Medicaid underfunded by \$120 million and the loss of federal matching dollars, we are facing the loss of \$500 million worth of health care services in Mississippi.”

Lewis-Payton released a list outlining the Medicaid regions across the state, the total number of nursing home patients covered by Medicaid in each region, and the number of recipients who would be affected by the cuts.

“These numbers clearly show the devastating impact of the Legislature’s failure to fully fund Medicaid,” Lewis-Payton said. “Unlike last year, there is no reasonable assurance from the Legislature that they will fund the shortfall. In fact, the Legislature has clearly said this is all the money we are going to get.”