

**Theresa Utton**

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**Subject:** FW: Cuts affecting humans

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Date: Tue, 12 Aug 2014 11:50:07 -0400

Dear Joint Fiscal Committee members,

I work with one of the many agencies that provide services to poor and disabled people which will suffer cuts under the Governor's proposed budget rescissions. The agency is already unable to hire adequate staffing for its clients at the low salaries it can afford and in the present job market. Because of short-staffing, supervisory staff are being forced to skimp on their responsibilities in order to themselves provide direct services to the client population.

The Governor is very public in pointing out problems like opiate addiction that require we commit more resources before things improve. He's right to do it, but more resources means more resources, not fewer. Cuts in services instead of necessary revenue increases may be good politics for the Governor but they are just as poisonous to the vulnerable as addiction to drugs. Resist the Governor's proposal and insist on adequate revenue to fund the services we have -- they're slight enough at best.

Sincerely,

Steve Norman