




# INARF Member 14(c) Meeting

August 2, 2021

# Today's Meeting Agenda

## Meeting Agenda:

1. Welcome and Meeting Overview
  2. Recap of Previous INARF 14(c) Meetings
  3. Federal Update
  4. FSSA American Rescue Plan Proposal Update
  5. Breakout Group Discussion on Member Transition Support Needs
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## Recap of Previous Meetings

- Raise the Wage Act
- President Biden's Executive Order
- Transformation to Competitive Employment Act
- INARF Member Transition
  - ADEC and Bona Vista
- Overview of Maryland and Oregon's Approach
- INARF support and stance

## INARF Policy Position

- Ensure the full array of employment options and choices is available to Hoosiers with disabilities, including community employment through VR and sheltered employment


INARF is working with ANCOR to advocate on behalf of our industry on federal legislation

## ANCOR Unofficial Policy Position

- ANCOR's unofficial policy position regarding 14(c): supports individual choice, but if 14(c) is eliminated, there must be a transition plan to support individuals in those settings and agencies employing individuals under 14(c) certificates.

In the event this legislation passes, INARF would like to have a plan to support providers during the transition process

### Federal Transition Support:

- The proposed federal legislation includes technical assistance and transition support for states and providers to ensure that wrap around services are available for individuals in 14(c) settings during the transition process
  - INARF is working with ANCOR to advocate for the industry regarding this legislation
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On 7/21/21, The Joint Sub-Committee on Education and Labor discussed H.R. 2373, Transformation to Competitive Integrated Employment Act. Rep. Robert Scott (D-VA) introduced this bill

- Proponents support revocation of 14c programs to promote Competitive Integrated Employment
  - i. Report shows dwindling applications for 14c and various state mandates against sub-minimum wage employment
- Opponents support sustained choice where individuals can decide what work environment fits their needs
  - i. A recent US Commission on Civil Rights survey of 10,000 public comments shows 98% supporting continuation of 14c.

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- Current legislation contains language creating a grant program that would be managed by the states.
  - a. Grant period of 5 years
  - b. Grants to the states would be no less than \$2M but not more than \$10M for the 5 year period
  - c. Significant tracking and reporting requirements must be submitted by participating grantees/states

### State Transition Support:

- INARF met with Maryland provider association to get information regarding their phase out of 14(c) – was completed in 2020
- For providers who choose to transition away from 14(c) employment, INARF proposed a request for 14(c) transition funding as part of the American Rescue Plan dollars

**We would like to gather member feedback regarding other ways to support the industry if legislation passes.**





- On July 9, FSSA submitted its HCBS Spending plan for use of the enhanced Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) funds included in the the American Rescue Plan Act
- The plan includes a grant program for providers that choose to transition away from 14(c). The specific language from the plan is included below:

“FSSA plans to create a number of grant opportunities that incentivize institutional and RCAP settings to convert to HCBS settings and 14(c) programs to transition to community employment programs. In support of this shift, FSSA will also facilitate a Learning Collaborative and technical assistance programs for providers to leverage.”
- The plan also includes language regarding implementing strategies to increase CIE including “enhanced benefits planning support and the use of quality-driven payment mechanisms, such as pay for performance”

- During the breakout group discussion portion of the meeting, INARF would like members to discuss
  - What should be funded in the FSSA 14 (c) transition grant program?
  - What topics should be included in the Learning Collaborative and technical assistance initiatives?
  - What are other things not included in the ARP proposal that would help providers that choose to transition away from 14(c) transition and support individuals served during the transition process?
  - How can INARF support providers that choose to transition away from 14(c)?

**Determine a breakout group member to report your key points to the main group**

Breakout Groups, report your action steps based on the questions on the previous slide



## INARF next steps:

- Summarize action steps from this meeting and submit to DDRS as part of INARF's response to the FSSA American Rescue Plan proposal
  - The INARF Board will review and approve the response (including the 14(c) portion)
- Continue providing policy updates to members regarding 14(c)
- Potential Meeting in Q4 based on member feedback



# Thank you!

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