

TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF **HUMAN SERVICES**

DRUG TESTING IMPLEMENTATION PLAN:

3RD QUARTER PROGRESS REPORT

APRIL 1, 2014



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**STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

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RAQUEL HATTER, MSW, Ed.D.
COMMISSIONER

April 1, 2014

Chairman Rusty Crowe
Senate Health and Welfare Committee
Suite 8, Legislative Plaza
Nashville, Tennessee

Chairman Bob Ramsey
House Health Committee
Suite 212, War Memorial Bldg.
Nashville, Tennessee

Dear Chairman Crowe and Chairman Ramsey:

This letter is serving as the Tennessee Department of Human Services' Drug Testing Implementation Plan FY 2014 Third Quarter Progress Report.

Public Chapter 1079 requires the Department of Human Services to develop a plan to implement a program of suspicion-based drug testing for each applicant who is otherwise eligible for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).

Since the last update report was issued, the Department has held statewide public hearings regarding the TANF drug testing rules. Public comments were received during these hearings and the Department has issued responses accordingly. The TANF drug testing rules currently reside with the Attorney General's office for approval.

The Department has identified an existing statewide contract to fulfill the testing component of Public Chapter 1079 and is working with the Department of General Services to leverage this contract.

Should you have questions, please contact my office at 615-313-4702.

In Service to Others,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Raquel Hatter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Raquel" being more prominent than the last name "Hatter".

Raquel Hatter, MSW, Ed.D.
Commissioner

RH/bm