

Chairperson:	Tim Gay
Committee:	Health and Human Services
Date of Hearing:	February 11, 2009

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 610 would require the Department of Health and Human Services to allow for an exception to limitations or caps on services under the medical assistance program for individuals with disabilities or other chronic conditions. These exceptions would be for habilitation, rehabilitation and other services needed to meet and maintain goals of independent living.

In order for a service to qualify for such an exception, the service must be deemed medically necessary. The request for an exception must be made by the recipient or the recipient's legally responsible guardian and include a demonstration of need by the individual's physician or other licensed medical professional. The physician or licensed medical professional must periodically report as to the continuing need for such service.

LB 610 would also prohibit a premium from being charged to individuals receiving services under this exception.

Principal Introducer:

Senator Heath Mello