

Harvey-Marion County CDDO
(Community Developmental Disability Organization)
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March 11, 2013

TO: Senator Mary Pilcher-Cook, Chairperson, and Members of the Senate
Committee on Public Health and Welfare

FROM: Elizabeth Schmidt, Executive Director, Harvey-Marion County CDDO

RE: Opposing SB 194, Community Developmental Disability Organizations;
performance of functional assessments.

Chairperson Pilcher-Cook and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on SB 194. My comments focus exclusively on the first change proposed by this bill, the striking of “eligibility determination” as a CDDO function.

Please take a few moments to look at the flow chart entitled “Eligibility & Service Access I/DD System—KDADS 2013.” This will show you “at a glance” the sweeping and damaging system change proposed by SB 194.

Start at the first box, top left corner. Right now, local CDDOs are the single point of entry into the service system for individuals with intellectual and other developmental disabilities. Thanks to the wise design envisioned in the DD Reform Act of 1995, all that families need to do is call their local CDDO. One phone call. One door. One stop shop to local professionals, trained and competent in the complex steps of eligibility determination, and ready to make referrals.

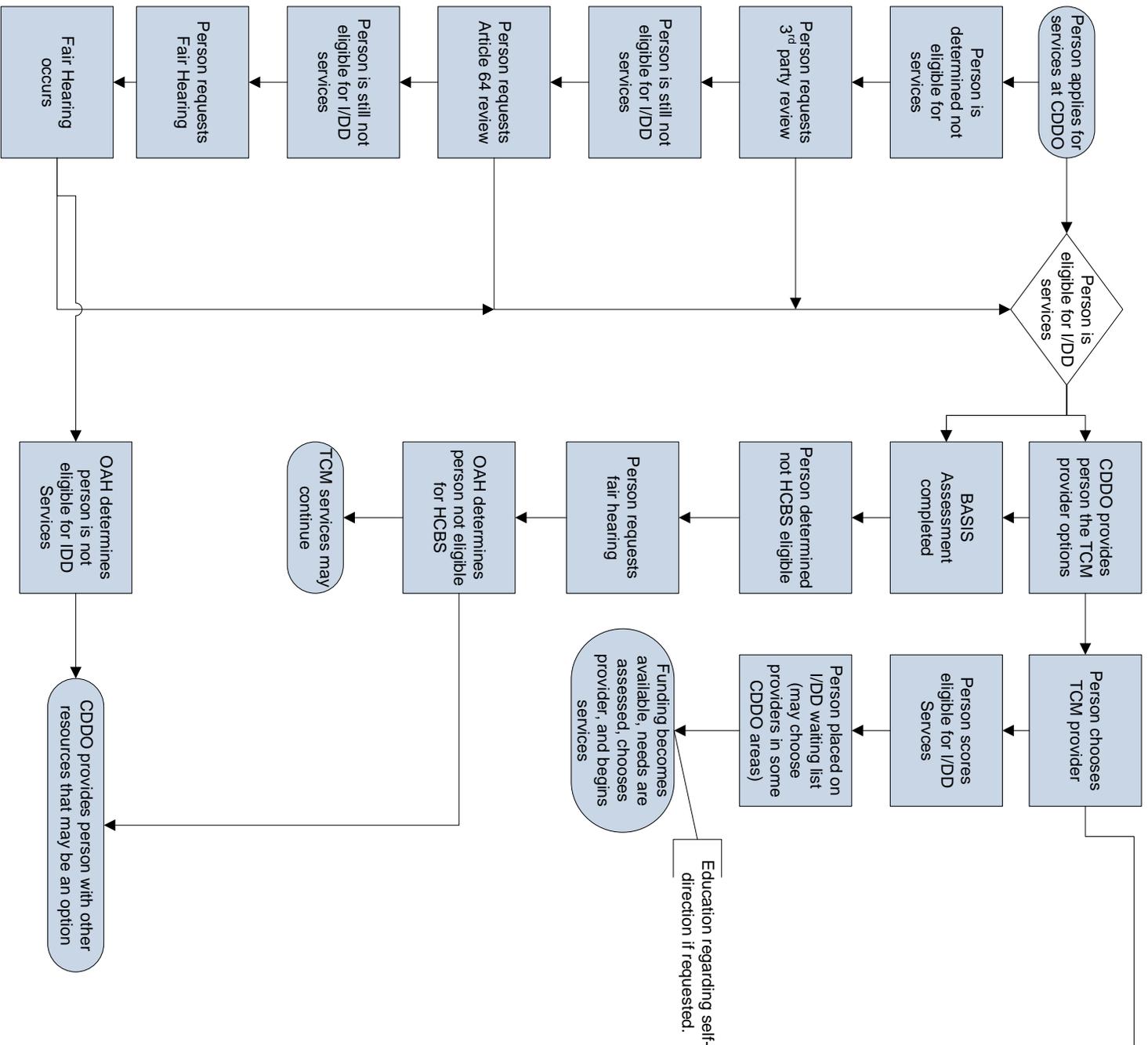
When an applicant meets the state definition of having a qualifying intellectual or other developmental disability, knowledgeable staff make impartial referrals to choices of available local providers. These same staff are also familiar with local infant-toddler programs, local special ed coops, local respite programs, local social service networks, and unique local community and faith-based resources that provide food banks and housing assistance. When an applicant does not qualify for I/DD services, he or she is gently guided to other local resources which may be of assistance. This system is set up now and works well. Check it out for yourself. An ongoing impartial review of CDDO regulatory compliance monitors effectiveness of the local point of entry processes. Compliance reviews are publicly posted on-line at: <http://csp.kdads.ks.gov/agency/css/Pages/CSSOutcomesandReports.aspx>.

If you value persons with intellectual/developmental disabilities, if you value the families who care for and support them, and if you value local access to local supports to help persons with I/DD keep living with their families and in their home communities, then you must oppose SB 194.

By striking “eligibility determination” from present law, SB 194 slams the door on single point of entry into local services. It silently implies that applications for services will be “outsourced” to remote, yet-to-be-unveiled entities, unfamiliar with local resources. SB 104 will add one more step, one more distant hoop to jump through, and make it that much more difficult for families to find their way to access supports for their loved one. This proposed change causes harm and hardship to families, and is completely without justification. For this change alone, SB 194 merits no further consideration.

Supporting increased independence, integration, inclusion, and productivity in individual homes and communities

Eligibility & Service Access I/DD System--KDADS 2013



- TCM provides:**
- **assessment of needs**
 - **Participation in Basis screening**
 - TCM services continue even if the person tiers 0 on the basis
 - **referral to resources to meet needs**
 - on-going tasks within the system including:
 - annual Person Centered Support Plan
 - Basis
 - 3160 & 3161 to communicate with CFS
 - Plan of Care if the person has HCBS funding
 - **Needs assessments if the person has HCBS Personal Attendant Care**
 - FMS Backup plans
 - Social Security review as requested
 - **monitoring**
 - Home visits
 - Review of goals
 - Review of current events
 - **crisis planning**
 - Safety plans
 - Funding
 - Resources

Per KDADS/CDDO Policy, re-determinations to confirm continued eligibility may be performed at the discretion of the area CDDO.