

PROCLAMATION 07-261 (SS12)

WHEREAS, the Illinois Constitution requires the General Assembly to make appropriations for the expenditure of public funds for the fiscal year for State departments, authorities, and public agencies; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly has passed, and I have signed, a temporary, one-month budget providing spending authority to State departments, authorities, and public agencies through July 31, 2007; and

WHEREAS, the temporary, one-month budget providing spending authority to State departments, authorities, and public agencies expired on July 31, 2007; and

WHEREAS, in order to avoid a costly government shutdown potentially injurious to the health, safety, and welfare of Illinois, the General Assembly must pass, at a minimum, a second temporary, one-month budget to provide spending authority to State departments, authorities, and public agencies which will expire on August 31, 2007; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) provides Home Health Agency services to Illinois residents; and

WHEREAS, Home Health Agency services include nursing services, speech, physical, and occupational therapy services, and home health services aimed at rehabilitation and attainment of short-term goals as outlined in a patient's plan of care; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly failed to provide for the expenditure of public funds after July of Fiscal Year 2008 for HFS' Home Health Agency services;

THEREFORE, pursuant to Article IV, Section 5 (b) of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, I hereby call and convene the 95th General Assembly in a special session to commence on August 5, 2007, at 5:00 p.m., to consider a second temporary, one-month budget to provide spending authority to State departments, authorities, and public agencies through August 31, 2007, and to consider any legislation, new or pending, which will address funding for the Department of Healthcare and Family Services' Home Health Agency services.

s/ROD BLAGOJEVICH
Governor