

### **Provider Watch - March 10, 2009 - FY09 Budget Agreed Upon**

The House and Senate Appropriations Conference Committee met this morning to discuss the FY09 budget. It was a quick meeting with agreement about the FY09 budget. Items of interest for out-of-home care providers include:

- The Child Placing Agency rate will be restored for the last quarter of FY09.
- Under Education, the 10% cut to the Education Grant to Residential Treatment Centers was rejected in favor of a more modest 3% cut.

In difficult economic times, everyone is feeling the pain of our depressed economic conditions including both the public and private sectors. We are very thankful to the legislature for supporting the children that are in their custody by removing some of the draconian cuts that were proposed. We have more work to do on the FY10 budget and your advocacy will be very important.