

Fund 1222 Medicaid Restricted Account

Agency(s): Health

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Purpose and Uses

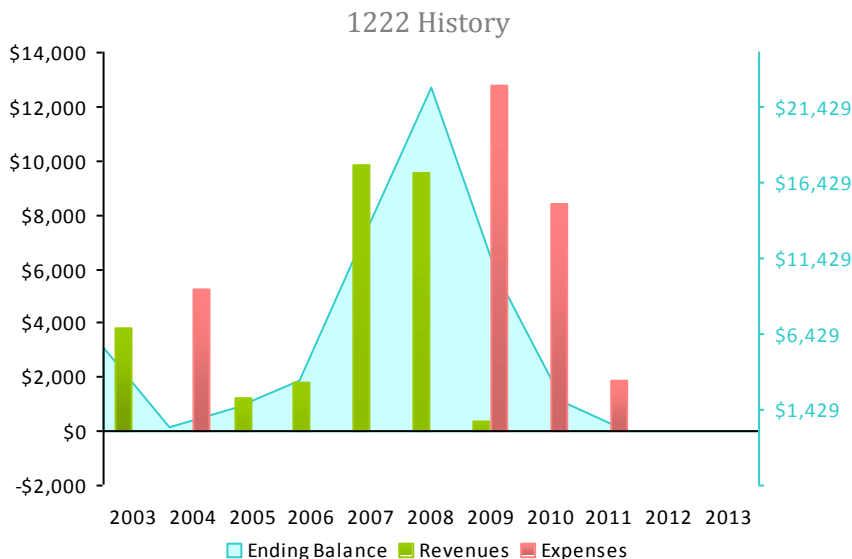
UCA 26-18-402 says that the Legislature may appropriate the money to fund programs that expand medical assistance coverage and private health insurance plans to low income persons who have not traditionally been served by Medicaid, including the Utah Children's Health Insurance Program.

Accountability

The restrictions in UCA 26-18-402 on the usage of the account are passive and are not binding with the use of "may." Statute directs that the account receive all unspent General Fund in the Medicaid program at the end of each fiscal year as well as certain penalties. As a General Fund Restricted Account, funds must be appropriated by the Legislature prior to expenditure. There are no account-specific reporting requirements.

Recommendation

The account has been used as a reserve fund with very flexible uses. The Legislature may want to identify this and similar reserve funds in one location so as to know about all available reserve fund balances. If the Legislature wanted to make the account's use tighter for specific purposes, it may want to tighten up the statutory restrictions on the account's usage in UCA 26-18-402.



*Revenues and Expenses include Net Transfers; Dollar figures in thousands

Graph Notes

In the last three years, the account has received no money besides interest earned due to laws making all General Fund in Medicaid nonlapsing. Starting in FY 2014, the account will again receive unspent General Fund from the Medicaid program. In FY 2011, the expenditure is from an appropriation by the Legislature. The \$3,500 FY 2011 negative revenue is from backing out an equivalent positive fair market adjustment from FY 2010. The account balance is in investments. The account has never received any money from penalties.