



Media Release

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Congressional Budget Office Taps Andy Allison to Serve on 2014 Advisory Panel

Arkansas Medicaid Director Andy Allison has been selected to serve on the Congressional Budget Office's (CBO) panel of health advisors for 2014, the state Department of Human Services (DHS) announced today.

Allison, who oversees Arkansas Medicaid and the DHS Division of Medical Services, has nearly twenty years of experience in researching, overseeing and running Medicaid programs. Since coming to Arkansas in 2011, he has taken a lead role in Arkansas's efforts to transform the state's health care system and in the creation of the state's innovative alternative to Medicaid expansion, commonly called the "Private Option."

Allison joins 19 other panel members who are widely-recognized health care experts.

In an announcement posted on its website, the CBO said of the panel, "We benefit from the advisers' understanding of cutting-edge research and the latest developments in health care delivery and financing. As a result, the quality of CBO's analysis of health policy is greatly enhanced."

The CBO is a nonpartisan office that produces independent analyses of budgetary and economic issues to support the U.S. Congressional budget process.

Allison, who is a founding board member and former president of the National Association of Medicaid Directors, said he's honored to be selected.

"I'm eager to join the CBO panel of health advisors to share our successes and experiences here in Arkansas and to learn from other professionals from across the country who work in health care policy and the health care industry," he said.

Allison came to Arkansas from Kansas, where he oversaw that state's Medicaid program, Children's Health Insurance Program and state employee health plans. He began his career as a Medicaid analyst at the federal Office of Management and Budget and later served as a health policy researcher at the Kansas Health Institute.

He received his Bachelor's Degree in History from Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia before earning a Master's Degree in Public Policy from Duke University and a Ph.D in Economics from Vanderbilt University.