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Date: Wed, 2/22/2012 8:14:09 PM

Subject: Re: After action discussion

All,

I was invited in the last few days to attend a meeting at USDOE today regarding the waivers recently issued. I was asked to attend on behalf of C4C.

After consulting with Tony, Eric and Patricia, I accepted, not knowing too much about the direction of the meeting.

In the end, it was an interesting meeting. USDOE (Carmel Martin (Policy) and Michael ? (ESE)) invited a number of civil rights groups and groups representing disabled kids etc. and C4C to hear why the USDOE believed the waiver outcomes were good and suggested that the attendees work to support a successful implementation by the states. USDOE was complimentary of the approaches used and generally stated that it was pleased with the direction of the waiver apps.

A number of folks expressed concern about a number of things. I'll spare you the details for now.

Importantly, Ed Trust advised the attendees that they are going to critique each state plan and release information publicly in the next few days. However, they are going to communicate with states in the next 24-48 hours to determine if what they are saying about the facts of the waiver are accurate. Each waiver state will be hearing from Ed Trust VERY shortly. They are going to rate a few of the states poorly (ie. insufficient to achieve gap closures and improve impaired classes of kids - my words). So I suggest that you pay attention to this, if you are concerned about criticism coming your way (as if you don't already have enough).

In the end, it was a good meeting and productive.

Paul

PS: A ppt was handed out and I will try to scan it in the morning and circulate.

PPS: While this was not billed as confidential, I suggest that we maintain low tones about the meeting.