direct service workers employed by private providers. The department shall also propose a methodology for quantifying the impact of future appropriations for this purpose. The report shall include recommendations to ensure that all funds appropriated in future fiscal years are used to increase employee compensation as required by law. The budget committees shall have 45 days to review and comment on the report prior to the release of funds.

Further provided that DHMH, in eonsultation with the Community Services Reimbursement Rate Commission, shall report to the budget committees on means to reduce the delay in reporting results of appropriations to increase compensation for community direct service workers. It is the intent of the General Assembly that the Community Services Reimbursement Rate Commission report the results of fiscal 2005 and 2006 increases in its January 2006 annual report.

Further provided that DHMH shall take all appropriate measures to ensure that funds appropriated to increase the compensation of community direct service workers are used for that purpose. The department shall sanction any private provider that does not use these funds as required by law

Federal Fund Appropriation.....

4,335,947 441,691

4,777,638

M00M01.02 Community Services

General Fund Appropriation, provided that \$1,000,000 of this appropriation to increase compensation for community direct service workers may not be expended until the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) submits to the budget committees a report on means to quantify the impact of funds appropriated to increase compensation for