



**Ohio Association of Health Underwriters
Regulatory Alert!
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Prepared by John T. McGough

**Governor Kasich names Barbara Sears
Ohio Medicaid Director**

Today, Governor John Kasich announced that OAHU member, Barbara Sears, will replace John McCarthy as the Director of the Department of Medicaid. In June of this year, Sears resigned her position as a State Representative from the 47th Ohio House District located in the Toledo area to become Assistant Director of the Governor's Office of Health Transformation. During her tenure in the House, Sears was elected by her colleagues as House Majority Floor Leader and also served as Chair of the Joint Medicaid Oversight Committee.

Kasich praised McCarthy as an invaluable member of his Cabinet and a key driver behind the Kasich Administration's efforts to modernize Ohio's Medicaid program. Kasich went on to make the following comments about Sears: "Filling those shoes is hard, which is why I turned to Barbara Sears...She has consistently been someone who has shared my vision for health care and worked closely with our team to achieve it. She knows the health care and insurance spaces very well and has outstanding relationships with the General Assembly. She has the right combination of expertise, temperament and leadership ability to guide Medicaid forward and I'm glad she's agreed to take up this responsibility."

OAHU Association Office: 4036 Center Road, Suite B, Brunswick, OH 44212

Phone 330-273-5756 · Fax (216) 803-9900 · Sheri@ohioahu.org

Government Affairs Office

John McGough · 137 East State Street · Columbus, OH 43215

Phone: 614-221-5771 · Fax: 614- 221-2865 · jmcgough@mcgough-inc.com