

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

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### Overview

Modifies the criteria a health care purchasing alliance must meet to qualify for stop-loss coverage, allows the commissioner of human services to accept grants for the stop-loss fund, and makes related changes.

#### Section

- 1** **Definitions.** Amends § 256.956, subd. 1. Modifies the definition of qualifying purchasing alliance by removing the restriction on operation in Duluth. Requires the commissioner of health to approve membership criteria used by a qualifying purchasing alliance, if this is needed to receive grants from other public or private entities. Strikes language requiring a qualifying purchasing alliance to end enrollment by December 31, 2003. Also allows the commissioner to waive the requirement that a qualifying purchasing alliance be operating before May 1, 2001, if this inhibits obtaining grants.
- 2** **Creation of account.** Amends § 256.956, subd. 2. Allows the commissioner of human services to accept grants from public or private entities for the stop-loss fund. Requires any money received to be deposited and distributed in accordance with state law governing the stop-loss fund.
- 3** **Reimbursement.** Amends § 256.956, subd. 3. States that enrollee claims are eligible for reimbursement for a two-year period from the date of enrollment. Within this period, provides that claims are reimburseable only for the calendar year in which the claim was incurred (current law allows reimbursement only in the calendar year in which the claim was paid).
- 4** **Sunset.** Amends § 256.956, subd. 9. Modifies the January 1, 2005 sunset for the stop-loss fund, by allowing the fund to sunset when all funds deposited have been distributed, if this is later.

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**Purchasing alliance stop-loss fund account.** States that any funds appropriated to the purchasing alliance stop-loss fund account as part of the FY 2004 and 2005 base appropriation shall be available only for claim reimbursements for enrollees of qualifying purchasing alliances.