

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

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**Subject:** State Medical Review Team

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### Overview

This bill modifies the state medical review team process for determination of disability. The state medical review team is a unit at DHS that determines disability in consultation with medical professionals appointed by the commissioner.

#### Section

- 1 State medical review team.** Amends § 256.01, by adding subd. 29. Requires the commissioner to assist specified applicants for MA who request a determination of disability to promptly obtain all necessary documentation to support the application. Requires the commissioner to review all requests from the state medical review team (SMRT) for additional information from applicants and ensure that applicants are only required to provide medical evidence that is necessary and appropriate to a SMRT determination. Requires the commissioner to report to the legislature by February 1, 2010, and annually thereafter with specified information regarding the activities of the SMRT.
- 2 Aged, blind, or disabled persons.** Amends § 256B.055, subd. 7. Requires certain applicants to be referred to the commissioner's SMRT for a determination of disability. Specifies how disability shall be determined.
- 3 Employed persons with disabilities.** Amends § 256B.057, subd. 9. Requires certain applicants to be referred to the commissioner's SMRT for a determination of disability. Specifies how disability shall be determined.
- 4 Outreach.** Amends § 256B.0751, subd. 7. Requires certain state health care program enrollees to select a primary care clinic with clinicians who have been certified as health care homes only if there are two or more primary care clinics with this type of clinician available to the enrollee.
- 5 Application processing.** Amends § 256L.05, subd. 4. Requires the commissioner or local county agency to assign one individual as the coordinator of each MinnesotaCare

application that is received. Requires the coordinator to be responsible for all communications with the applicant throughout the application process and upon renewal.

- 6 **Federal approval.** Requires the commissioner of human services to seek approval, if necessary, to implement the changes in section 4.
- 7 **Appropriations.** Appropriates an unspecified amount from the general fund to the commissioner of human services for the biennium beginning July 1, 2009, for the purposes of the commissioner assisting applicants for MA in obtaining necessary documentation for a determination of disability. Appropriates an unspecified amount from the general fund to the commissioner of human services for the biennium beginning July 1, 2009, for the purposes of the commissioner reviewing all requests from SMRT for additional information from applicants and ensuring that applicants are only required to provide medical evidence that is necessary and appropriate to a SMRT determination.