

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

**FILE NUMBER:** H.F. 1014  
**Version:** As introduced

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**Authors:** Morrow

**Subject:** Modifying MA for Employed Persons with Disabilities (MA-EPD)

**Analyst:** Danyell Punelli, 651-296-5058

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### Overview

This bill modifies income and asset disregards for certain MA-EPD enrollees transitioning to standard MA at age 65 and eliminates the upper and lower age limits for MA-EPD.

MA-EPD is an optional category under MA. Federal law provides an exception from the prohibition on substantial gainful activity for MA eligibility. This category allows persons with disabilities to work productively and still retain health benefits. In order to be eligible under this option a person must:

- Be certified as disabled by SSA or SMRT;
- Be between age 16 and 65;
- Receive more than \$65/month in earned income and pay Medicare and Social Security taxes; and
- Pay required monthly premiums and unearned income obligation.

There is no income limit under MA-EPD. The asset limit is \$20,000 (certain assets are excluded, such as retirement accounts, medical expense accounts, and other exclusions that apply to persons with disabilities).

- 1 Asset limitations for individuals and families.** Amends § 256B.056, subd. 3. Creates new income and asset disregards for certain MA-EPD enrollees transitioning to standard MA at age 65. Allows enrollees who have been enrolled in MA-EPD during each of the 24 consecutive months prior to reaching age 65 to retain assets within the current MA-EPD asset limit and disregard spousal assets and certain other assets when determining eligibility for standard MA at age 65. Disregards spousal income when determining eligibility for standard MA when a person reaches age 65, if the person has been enrolled in MA-EPD for each of the 24 consecutive months prior to reaching age 65. Specifies that the asset disregard and spousal income disregard does not apply at the time the enrollee or the enrollee's spouse requests MA payment for long-term care services.
- 2 Employed persons with disabilities.** Amends § 256B.057, subd. 9. Eliminates the upper and lower age limits for MA-EPD eligibility.
- 3 Appropriation.** Appropriates an unspecified amount from the general fund to the commissioner of human services for fiscal year 2012 for the purposes of sections 1 and 2.

