

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

**FILE NUMBER:** H.F. 1419  
**Version:** As introduced

**DATE:** March 19, 2013

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**Subject:** Critical Access Dental Provider Designation

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### Overview

The Medical Assistance and MinnesotaCare programs reimburse providers designated as critical access dental providers at higher rates than other dental providers. This bill requires the commissioner of human services to designate certain dentists in private practice as critical access dental providers.

#### Section

- 1 Critical access dental providers.** Amends § 256B.76, subd. 4. Requires the commissioner to designate private practicing dentists as critical access dental providers, if: (i) the dentist's office is located within a dental professional shortage area and located outside the seven-county metro area; (ii) more than 50 percent of patient encounters are with patients who are uninsured or covered by MA or MinnesotaCare; (iii) the dentist does not restrict access or services because of a patient's financial limitations or public assistance status; and (iv) the level of service provided is critical to maintaining adequate levels of patient access within the service area.