

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill requires the commissioner of human services to establish on the agency Web site an application to allow consumers to compare local pharmacy prices for prescription drugs. The bill also requires the commissioner of health to contract with Minnesota Community Measurement to make available additional cost and volume information for procedures, tests, and services.

Section

- 1 **Prescription drug price comparison.** Amends § 256.01, by adding subd. 40. Requires the commissioner of human services to establish, on the agency's Web site, an interactive application that allows consumers to compare local pharmacy prices for commonly filled prescription drugs. Requires the application to include the usual and customary prices paid by consumers without drug coverage, based on MA claims information and prices reported by pharmacies. Requires the application to allow searches for drug prices by drug name and class, and by city, county, and zip code.
- 2 **Reporting on health care costs and service volume.** Appropriates money from the general fund to the commissioner of health, for fiscal year 2017, to contract with Minnesota Community Measurement (MCM). The contract must require MCM to increase the number of procedures, tests, and services for which average cost information is made available on the organization's Web site. The contract must also require MCM to make available on the organization's Web site information on the volume of services provided at clinics, medical groups, and hospitals, for those procedures, tests, and services for which service volume is related to quality of care.