

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill modifies the Disability Waiver Rate System (DWRS). The DWRS was enacted in 2013 and creates a statewide methodology for determining payment rates for a variety of services for persons with disabilities. The DWRS was designed with a transition period before full implementation in 2019. The DWRS was created to comply with federal Medicaid requirements for uniform rate determination methods and standards.

Section

- 1 Financial and waiting list data reporting.** Amends § 256B.0916, subd. 8. Paragraph (a) modifies the list of financial and waiting list information the commissioner must make available and requires the commissioner to make the information available on the department's Web site.

Paragraph (b) adds language requiring the commissioner to post a report on the department's Web site by August 15 of each year that includes: (1) the information required in paragraph (a); (2) a list of county and tribal agencies required to submit a corrective action plan; and (3) a quarterly list of the county and tribal agencies from which resources were transferred, the amount of resources transferred, and a list of the county and tribal agencies that received increased resources as a result of the transfers and the amounts provided to each county and tribal agency.
- 2 Payments for residential support services.** Amends § 256B.4914, subd. 6. Modifies the calculation of payments for residential support services.

Section

3 **Updating payment values and additional information.** Amends § 256B.4914, subd. 10. Modifies the list of issues that impact all services the commissioner is required to review and evaluate by adding: (1) new costs as a result of changes in the minimum wage; and (2) new costs as a result of changes in the U.S. Department of Labor overtime and exempt worker rules. Modifies a report the commissioner must make to the legislature on January 15, 2017. Modifies instructions to the commissioner regarding the development of a shared staffing methodology and requires the commissioner to publish the methodology instructions in the DWRS provider manual and in a bulletin to all lead agencies, tribes, contract case managers, and service providers.

4 **Service authorization deadlines.** Amends § 256B.4914, subd. 10a. Paragraph (a) requires service providers to provide lead agencies with each recipient's completed staffing calculator worksheet at least 60 days prior to the expiration of the recipient's current service authorization.

Paragraph (b) requires the lead agency and the service provider to agree on the rates and units of service for a renewal of service authorization no later than 30 days prior to the current service authorization expiration.

Paragraph (c) requires the new service authorization to be processed and approved by the lead agency no later than the expiration date of the current service authorization.

Paragraph (d) specifies the payment amount the lead agency must pay the service provider if the lead agency fails to comply with paragraph (c).

Paragraph (e) requires the provider to give a notice of termination to the recipient after providing service for at least seven days without an approved service authorization.