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Overview

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act directed states to operate health insurance exchanges through which individuals and small employers can shop for and purchase health insurance and obtain advance premium tax credits, cost-sharing reductions, and small business health insurance tax credits. States without a state-based exchange have a federally facilitated exchange, using the federal platform and exchange to perform all of the state's exchange functions. Some states rely on the federal platform to perform eligibility and enrollment functions, and perform other exchange functions at the state level. Currently 11 states and the District of Columbia operate state-based exchanges, 11 states perform some exchange functions but use the federal platform and exchange for other functions, and 28 states use the federal exchange.

In 2013 MNsure was established as Minnesota's state-based exchange. This bill directs the commissioner of commerce to convert Minnesota's exchange to a federally facilitated exchange, effective for coverage beginning January 1, 2019.

Section

1 Establishment of federally facilitated marketplace.

Subd. 1. Establishment. Paragraph (a) directs the commissioner of commerce to establish a federally facilitated marketplace for Minnesota to replace MNsure, for coverage beginning January 1, 2019. Directs the commissioner to incorporate elements of the Minnesota eligibility system, where appropriate and cost-effective; consult with stakeholders; and seek federal funds for planning and development costs.

Section

Paragraph (b) provides that health plans that are offered through the federally facilitated marketplace, when implemented, and that use provider networks must at least satisfy state distance or travel times for geographic accessibility and state network adequacy requirements.

Subd. 2. Implementation plan; draft legislation. Directs the commissioner of commerce to consult with others and develop and present to the 2018 Legislature an implementation plan and draft legislation for conversion to a federally facilitated marketplace.

Subd. 3. Vendor contract. Requires the commissioner to contract with a vendor for technical assistance in developing the plan to convert to a federally facilitated marketplace.

- 2 Appropriation.** Makes a blank appropriation from the general fund to the commissioner of commerce for the vendor contract to develop a plan to convert to a federally facilitated marketplace.
- 3 Repealer.** Repeals statutes in the MNsure chapter, effective January 1, 2019.