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Overview

This bill establishes the parenting with a disability support services pilot project and requires the commissioner of human services to seek all necessary federal waivers, amendments to the medical assistance (MA) state plan, and approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to expand the parenting with a disability support services pilot project.

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1 Parenting with a disability; support services; pilot project.

Subd. 1. Purpose. Requires the commissioner of human services to establish a pilot project to assist parents with disabilities in childrearing tasks. States the purpose of the pilot project is to assist a parent with a disability in childrearing tasks and to prevent removal of a child from a parent solely because the parent has a disability.

Subd. 2. Definitions. Defines the terms “adaptive parenting equipment,” “child,” “childrearing task,” “commissioner,” “parent,” “persons with a disability,” and “supportive parenting service.”

Subd. 3. Personal care assistance services; covered services. Paragraph (a) makes a parent eligible to receive personal care assistance (PCA) services for supportive parenting services if a parent is eligible for and receiving MA PCA services. Limits a parent to using one PCA at a time, regardless of the number of children. Specifies that supportive parenting services are services to the parent and not the child.

Paragraph (b) requires supportive parenting services to be provided by a different PCA than the PCA providing MA PCA services. Prohibits the PCA providing supportive

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parenting services from performing MA PCA services. Allows the PCA providing medical assistance and the PCA providing supportive parenting services to be scheduled to support the parent at the same time.

Paragraph (c) prohibits supportive parenting services from replacing MA PCA services. Does not count supportive parenting services toward a parent's 275 hours per month of MA PCA services.

Paragraph (d) limits a parent's supportive parenting services to 40 hours per month.

Paragraph (e), if the commissioner deems necessary, requires the commissioner to develop standards and training requirements for a provider of supportive parenting services.

Subd. 4. Adaptive parenting equipment. Makes a parent eligible for supportive parenting services eligible to receive adaptive parenting equipment. Requires the commissioner to develop a process for a parent to apply for adaptive parenting equipment, including an evaluation of the parent's adaptive parenting equipment needs.

Subd. 5. Grants. Requires the commissioner to develop an application process for and award two-year state-funded grants to PCA provider agencies to provide supportive parenting services. Requires grant applicants to be an approved PCA provider agency. Requires the grantee to bill Department of Human Services (DHS) on the forms provided by and in a manner prescribed by the commissioner. Sets rates for supportive parenting services.

Subd. 6. Report. Within six months after the pilot project has concluded, or by January 1, 2019, whichever is earlier, requires the commissioner to submit a report on the pilot project to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees having jurisdiction over health and human services policy and finance. Lists the items the report must address.

Subd. 7. Advisory committee. Establishes the Parenting with a Disability Advisory Committee. Lists the membership of the committee. Requires the committee to elect a chair from among its members. Prohibits committee members from voting on a decision of the committee in which the member has a direct or indirect financial interest. Lists the duties of the advisory committee.

Subd. 8. Appropriation. Appropriates an unspecified amount in fiscal year 2018 from the general fund to the commissioner of human services to pay for the costs of establishing and administering the parenting with a disability support services pilot project. Specifies this is a onetime appropriation. Makes the unencumbered balance in the first year available in the second year.

2 Federal waiver approval. Requires the commissioner of human services to seek all necessary federal waivers, amendments to the MA state plan, and approval from CMS to expand the parenting with a disability support services pilot project.