

File Number: H.F. 1553 **Date:** March 7, 2017
Version: The delete everything amendment (H1553DE2-1)

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Subject: Nonemergency medical transportation

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Overview

This bill makes changes related to Medical Assistance (MA) requirements for the provision of, and reimbursement for, nonemergency medical transportation services. The bill expands access to enhanced funding for rural providers, specifies requirements for managed care and county-based purchasing plans, and makes other changes.

Section

1 **Transportation costs.** Amends § 256B.0625, subd. 17.

The amendment to paragraph (b) makes a change in terminology and clarifies that taxicabs must meet the MA requirements for nonemergency medical transportation (NEMT).

The amendment to paragraph (g) includes the securement of car seats in the list of driver-assisted services.

The amendment to paragraph (i) strikes language that prohibits implementation of the covered modes of transportation, without a new rate structure.

The amendment to paragraph (n) modifies mileage requirements and thereby expands eligibility for enhanced payments under the Rural Urban Commuting Adjustment (RUCA), for NEMT services delivered in rural areas of the state.

A new paragraph (q) requires the commissioner, when determining NEMT reimbursement rates, to exempt the covered modes of transportation from MA rule setting payment rates and requires pro-rating for transporting two or more persons.

Section

- 2** **Documentation required.** Amends § 256B.0625, subd. 17b. Makes a conforming change related to implementation of all modes of NEMT.
- 3** **Nursing facility transports.** Amends § 256B.0625, by adding subd. 17c. Exempts from level of need determinations Minnesota health care program enrollees who are residing in, or being discharged from, a nursing facility. States that these individuals are eligible for NEMT services until they no longer reside in a nursing facility.
- 4** **Managed care.** Amends § 256B.0626, subd. 18h. Lists the MA provisions related to NEMT services that managed care and county-based purchasing plans must comply with (current law specifies the provisions from which these plans are exempt). A new paragraph (b) requires NEMT providers to comply with special transportation services standards, but exempts publicly operated transit systems, volunteers, and not-for-hire vehicles from this requirement. Provides an immediate effective date.