

File Number: H.F. 3193
Version: As introduced

Date: March 9, 2018

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Subject: Modifies the Effective Date for Certain Employment Services under the Disability Waiver Rate System (DWRS)

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Overview

This bill modifies the effective date of employment support services, employment exploration services, and employment development services under the DWRS. The bill also modifies the expiration date of supported employment services under DWRS. In 2017, employment support services, employment exploration services, and employment development services were new services added to the DWRS. The Department of Human Services (DHS) has not implemented these new services yet because DHS is awaiting federal approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

The DWRS was enacted by the legislature in 2013 in order to comply with federal requirements that medical assistance (MA) rates be determined according to a statewide methodology. Prior to the implementation of DWRS, counties contracted with providers and set reimbursement rates. DHS administers the DWRS.

Enactment of the DWRS created a statewide framework within which reimbursement rates for services provided under the MA home and community-based services (HCBS) disability waivers are established. Applicable services under DWRS are those authorized under the state's four MA HCBS disability waivers: brain injury waiver, waiver for persons with developmental disabilities, community access for disability inclusion waiver, and the community alternative care waiver.

Section

- 1** **Effective date.** Amends Laws 2017, First Special Session ch. 6, art. 1, § 24, the effective date. Modifies the effective date of the three new employment services under DWRS and the expiration date of an existing employment service under DWRS. The rest of the changes to the effective date are not substantive. Makes this section effective retroactively from January 1, 2018.