Senator ..... moves to amend S.F. No. 92 as follows:

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

"ARTICLE 1

PROGRAM INTEGRITY

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 15C.02, is amended to read:

15C.02 LIABILITY FOR CERTAIN ACTS.

(a) A person who commits any act described in clauses (1) to (7) is liable to the state or the political subdivision for a civil penalty ~~of not less than $5,500 and not more than $11,000 per false or fraudulent claim~~ in the amounts set forth in the federal False Claims Act, United States Code, title 31, section 3729, and as modified by the federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act of 2015, plus three times the amount of damages that the state or the political subdivision sustains because of the act of that person, except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b):

(1) knowingly presents, or causes to be presented, a false or fraudulent claim for payment or approval;

(2) knowingly makes or uses, or causes to be made or used, a false record or statement material to a false or fraudulent claim;

(3) knowingly conspires to commit a violation of clause (1), (2), (4), (5), (6), or (7);

(4) has possession, custody, or control of property or money used, or to be used, by the state or a political subdivision and knowingly delivers or causes to be delivered less than all of that money or property;

(5) is authorized to make or deliver a document certifying receipt for money or property used, or to be used, by the state or a political subdivision and, intending to defraud the state or a political subdivision, makes or delivers the receipt without completely knowing that the information on the receipt is true;

(6) knowingly buys, or receives as a pledge of an obligation or debt, public property from an officer or employee of the state or a political subdivision who lawfully may not sell or pledge the property; or

(7) knowingly makes or uses, or causes to be made or used, a false record or statement material to an obligation to pay or transmit money or property to the state or a political subdivision, or knowingly conceals or knowingly and improperly avoids or decreases an obligation to pay or transmit money or property to the state or a political subdivision.

(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), the court may assess not less than two times the amount of damages that the state or the political subdivision sustains because of the act of the person if:

(1) the person committing a violation under paragraph (a) furnished an officer or employee of the state or the political subdivision responsible for investigating the false or fraudulent claim violation with all information known to the person about the violation within 30 days after the date on which the person first obtained the information;

(2) the person fully cooperated with any investigation by the state or the political subdivision of the violation; and

(3) at the time the person furnished the state or the political subdivision with information about the violation, no criminal prosecution, civil action, or administrative action had been commenced under this chapter with respect to the violation and the person did not have actual knowledge of the existence of an investigation into the violation.

(c) A person violating this section is also liable to the state or the political subdivision for the costs of a civil action brought to recover any penalty or damages.

(d) A person is not liable under this section for mere negligence, inadvertence, or mistake with respect to activities involving a false or fraudulent claim.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 119B.09, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **General eligibility requirements.** (a) Child care services must be available to families <u>with financial resources, excluding vehicles, of less than $100,000,</u> who need child care to find or keep employment or to obtain the training or education necessary to find employment and who:

(1) have household income less than or equal to 67 percent of the state median income, adjusted for family size, at application and redetermination, and meet the requirements of section 119B.05; receive MFIP assistance; and are participating in employment and training services under chapter 256J; or

(2) have household income less than or equal to 47 percent of the state median income, adjusted for family size, at application and less than or equal to 67 percent of the state median income, adjusted for family size, at redetermination.

(b) Child care services must be made available as in-kind services.

(c) All applicants for child care assistance and families currently receiving child care assistance must be assisted and required to cooperate in establishment of paternity and

enforcement of child support obligations for all children in the family at application and redetermination as a condition of program eligibility. For purposes of this section, a family is considered to meet the requirement for cooperation when the family complies with the requirements of section 256.741.

(d) All applicants for child care assistance and families currently receiving child care assistance must pay the co-payment fee under section 119B.12, subdivision 2, as a condition of eligibility. The co-payment fee may include additional recoupment fees due to a child care assistance program overpayment.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 119B.09, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Eligibility; annual income; calculation.** (a) Annual income of the applicant family is the current monthly income of the family multiplied by 12 or the income for the 12-month period immediately preceding the date of application, or income calculated by the method which provides the most accurate assessment of income available to the family.

(b) Self-employment income must be calculated based on gross receipts less operating expenses authorized by the Internal Revenue Service.

(c) Income changes are processed under section 119B.025, subdivision 4. Included lump sums counted as income under section 256P.06, subdivision 3, must be annualized over 12 months. Income includes all deposits into accounts owned or controlled by the applicant, including amounts spent on personal expenses including rent, mortgage, automobile-related expenses, utilities, and food and amounts received as salary or draws from business accounts. Income does not include a deposit specifically identified by the applicant as a loan or gift, for which the applicant provides the source, date, amount, and repayment terms. Income and assets must be verified with documentary evidence. If the applicant does not have sufficient evidence of income or assets, verification must be obtained from the source of the income or assets.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 119B.09, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Date of eligibility for assistance.** (a) The date of eligibility for child care assistance under this chapter is the later of the date the application was received by the county; the beginning date of employment, education, or training; the date the infant is born for applicants to the at-home infant care program; or the date a determination has been made that the applicant is a participant in employment and training services under Minnesota Rules, part 3400.0080, or chapter 256J.

(b) Payment ceases for a family under the at-home infant child care program when a family has used a total of 12 months of assistance as specified under section 119B.035. Payment of child care assistance for employed persons on MFIP is effective the date of employment or the date of MFIP eligibility, whichever is later. Payment of child care assistance for MFIP or DWP participants in employment and training services is effective the date of commencement of the services or the date of MFIP or DWP eligibility, whichever is later. Payment of child care assistance for transition year child care must be made retroactive to the date of eligibility for transition year child care.

(c) Notwithstanding paragraph (b), payment of child care assistance for participants eligible under section 119B.05 may only be made retroactive for a maximum of ~~six~~ zero months from the date of application for child care assistance.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective for applications processed on or after July 1, 2019.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 119B.09, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

Subd. 9. **Licensed and legal nonlicensed family child care providers; assistance.** This subdivision applies to any provider providing care in a setting other than a licensed or license-exempt child care center. Licensed and legal nonlicensed family child care providers and their employees are not eligible to receive child care assistance subsidies under this chapter for their own children or children in their family during the hours they are providing child care or being paid to provide child care. Child care providers and their employees are eligible to receive child care assistance subsidies for their children when they are engaged in other activities that meet the requirements of this chapter and for which child care assistance can be paid. The hours for which the provider or their employee receives a child care subsidy for their own children must not overlap with the hours the provider provides child care services.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 119B.09, subdivision 9a, is amended to read:

Subd. 9a. **Child care ~~centers~~ authorizations; ~~assistance~~ dependents of employees and controlling individuals.** (a) A licensed or license-exempt child care center ~~may~~ must not receive authorizations for ~~25 or fewer children~~ more than ten percent of total licensed capacity of children who are dependents of the center's employees or controlling individuals. ~~If a child care center is authorized for more than 25 children who are dependents of center employees, the county cannot authorize additional dependents of an employee until the number of children falls below 25.~~

~~(b) Funds paid to providers during the period of time when a center is authorized for more than 25 children who are dependents of center employees must not be treated as overpayments under section 119B.11, subdivision 2a, due to noncompliance with this subdivision.~~

~~(c)~~ (b) Nothing in this subdivision precludes the commissioner from conducting fraud investigations relating to child care assistance, imposing sanctions, and obtaining monetary recovery as otherwise provided by law.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 119B.125, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Record-keeping requirement.** (a) As a condition of payment, all providers receiving child care assistance payments must keep accurate and legible daily attendance records at the site where services are delivered for children receiving child care assistance and must make those records available immediately to the county or the commissioner upon request. The attendance records must be completed daily and include the date, the first and last name of each child in attendance, and the times when each child is dropped off and picked up. To the extent possible, the times that the child was dropped off to and picked up from the child care provider must be entered by the person dropping off or picking up the child. The daily attendance records must be retained at the site where services are delivered for six years after the date of service.

(b) Records that are not produced immediately under paragraph (a), unless a delay is agreed upon by the commissioner and provider, shall not be valid for purposes of establishing a child's attendance and shall result in an overpayment under paragraph (d).

(c) A county or the commissioner may deny or revoke a provider's authorization ~~as a child care provider to any applicant, rescind authorization of any provider,~~ to receive child care assistance payments under section 119B.13, subdivision 6, paragraph (d), pursue a fraud disqualification under section 256.98, take an action against the provider under chapter 245E, or establish an attendance record overpayment ~~claim in the system~~ under paragraph (d) against a current or former provider, when the county or the commissioner knows or has reason to believe that the provider has not complied with the record-keeping requirement in this subdivision. ~~A provider's failure to produce attendance records as requested on more than one occasion constitutes grounds for disqualification as a provider.~~

(d) To calculate an attendance record overpayment under this subdivision, the commissioner or county agency subtracts the maximum daily rate from the total amount paid to a provider for each day that a child's attendance record is missing, unavailable, incomplete, illegible, inaccurate, or otherwise inadequate.

(e) The commissioner shall develop criteria to direct a county when the county must establish an attendance overpayment under this subdivision.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 119B.125, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 10. **Proof of surety bond coverage.** All licensed child care centers authorized for reimbursement under this chapter that received child care assistance program revenue equal to or greater than $250,000 in the previous calendar year must provide to the commissioner at least once per year proof of surety bond coverage of $100,000 in a format determined by the commissioner. The surety bond must be in a form approved by the commissioner, be renewed annually, and allow for recovery of costs and fees in pursuing a claim on the bond.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2020.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 119B.125, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 11. **Financial misconduct.** (a) County agencies may conduct investigations of financial misconduct by child care providers as described in section 245E.02, subdivisions 1 and 2, only after receiving verification that the department is not investigating a provider under chapter 245E.

(b) If, upon investigation, a preponderance of evidence shows financial misconduct by a provider, the county may immediately suspend the provider's authorization to receive child care assistance payments under section 119B.13, subdivision 6, paragraph (d), prior to pursuing other available remedies.

(c) The county shall give immediate notice in writing to a provider and any affected families of any suspension of the provider's child care authorization under paragraph (b). The notice shall state:

(1) the factual basis for the county's determination;

(2) the date of the suspension;

(3) the length of the suspension;

(4) the requirements and procedures for reinstatement;

(5) the right to dispute the county's determination and to provide evidence; and

(6) the right to appeal the county's determination.

(d) The county's determination under paragraph (b) is subject to the fair hearing requirements under section 119B.16, subdivisions 1a, 1b, and 2. A provider that requests a fair hearing is entitled to a hearing within ten days of the request.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 119B.13, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Provider payments.** (a) A provider shall bill only for services documented according to section 119B.125, subdivision 6. The provider shall bill for services provided within ten days of the end of the service period. Payments under the child care fund shall be made within 21 days of receiving a complete bill from the provider. Counties or the state may establish policies that make payments on a more frequent basis.

(b) If a provider has received an authorization of care and been issued a billing form for an eligible family, the bill must be submitted within 60 days of the last date of service on the bill. A bill submitted more than 60 days after the last date of service must be paid if the county determines that the provider has shown good cause why the bill was not submitted within 60 days. Good cause must be defined in the county's child care fund plan under section 119B.08, subdivision 3, and the definition of good cause must include county error. Any bill submitted more than a year after the last date of service on the bill must not be paid.

(c) If a provider provided care for a time period without receiving an authorization of care and a billing form for an eligible family, payment of child care assistance may only be made retroactively for a maximum of six months from the date the provider is issued an authorization of care and billing form.

(d) A county or the commissioner may refuse to issue a child care authorization to a licensed or legal nonlicensed provider, revoke an existing child care authorization to a licensed or legal nonlicensed provider, stop payment issued to a licensed or legal nonlicensed provider, or refuse to pay a bill submitted by a licensed or legal nonlicensed provider if:

(1) the provider admits to intentionally giving the county materially false information on the provider's billing forms;

(2) a county or the commissioner finds by a preponderance of the evidence that the provider intentionally gave the county materially false information on the provider's billing forms, or provided false attendance records to a county or the commissioner;

(3) the provider is in violation of child care assistance program rules, until the agency determines those violations have been corrected;

(4) the provider is operating after:

(i) an order of suspension of the provider's license issued by the commissioner;

(ii) an order of revocation of the provider's license; or

(iii) a final order of conditional license issued by the commissioner for as long as the conditional license is in effect;

(5) the provider submits false attendance reports or refuses to provide documentation of the child's attendance upon request; ~~or~~

(6) the provider gives false child care price information~~.~~; or

(7) the provider fails to report decreases in a child's attendance, as required under section 119B.125, subdivision 9.

(e) For purposes of paragraph (d), clauses (3), (5), ~~and~~ (6), and (7), the county or the commissioner may withhold the provider's authorization or payment for a period of time not to exceed three months beyond the time the condition has been corrected.

(f) A county's payment policies must be included in the county's child care plan under section 119B.08, subdivision 3. If payments are made by the state, in addition to being in compliance with this subdivision, the payments must be made in compliance with section 16A.124.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2019.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 119B.13, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Absent days.** (a) Licensed child care providers and license-exempt centers must not be reimbursed for more than 25 full-day absent days per child, excluding holidays, in a ~~fiscal~~ calendar year, or for more than ten consecutive full-day absent days. "Absent day" means any day that the child is authorized and scheduled to be in care with a licensed provider or license exempt center and the child is absent from the care for the entire day. Legal nonlicensed family child care providers must not be reimbursed for absent days. If a child attends for part of the time authorized to be in care in a day, but is absent for part of the time authorized to be in care in that same day, the absent time must be reimbursed but the time must not count toward the absent days limit. Child care providers must only be reimbursed for absent days if the provider has a written policy for child absences and charges all other families in care for similar absences.

(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), children with documented medical conditions that cause more frequent absences may exceed the 25 absent days limit, or ten consecutive full-day absent days limit. Absences due to a documented medical condition of a parent or

sibling who lives in the same residence as the child receiving child care assistance do not count against the absent days limit in a ~~fiscal~~ calendar year. Documentation of medical conditions must be on the forms and submitted according to the timelines established by the commissioner. A public health nurse or school nurse may verify the illness in lieu of a medical practitioner. If a provider sends a child home early due to a medical reason, including, but not limited to, fever or contagious illness, the child care center director or lead teacher may verify the illness in lieu of a medical practitioner.

(c) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), children in families may exceed the absent days limit if at least one parent: (1) is under the age of 21; (2) does not have a high school diploma or commissioner of education-selected high school equivalency certification; and (3) is a student in a school district or another similar program that provides or arranges for child care, parenting support, social services, career and employment supports, and academic support to achieve high school graduation, upon request of the program and approval of the county. If a child attends part of an authorized day, payment to the provider must be for the full amount of care authorized for that day.

(d) Child care providers must be reimbursed for up to ten federal or state holidays or designated holidays per year when the provider charges all families for these days and the holiday or designated holiday falls on a day when the child is authorized to be in attendance. Parents may substitute other cultural or religious holidays for the ten recognized state and federal holidays. Holidays do not count toward the absent days limit.

(e) A family or child care provider must not be assessed an overpayment for an absent day payment unless (1) there was an error in the amount of care authorized for the family, (2) all of the allowed full-day absent payments for the child have been paid, or (3) the family or provider did not timely report a change as required under law.

(f) The provider and family shall receive notification of the number of absent days used upon initial provider authorization for a family and ongoing notification of the number of absent days used as of the date of the notification.

(g) For purposes of this subdivision, "absent days limit" means 25 full-day absent days per child, excluding holidays, in a ~~fiscal~~ calendar year; and ten consecutive full-day absent days.

(h) For purposes of this subdivision, "holidays limit" means ten full-day holidays per child, excluding absent days, in a calendar year.

(i) If a day meets the criteria of an absent day or a holiday under this subdivision, the provider must bill that day as an absent day or holiday. A provider's failure to properly bill

an absent day or a holiday results in an overpayment, regardless of whether the child reached, or is exempt from, the absent days limit or holidays limit for the calendar year.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2019.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 144A.479, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 8. **Labor market reporting.** A home care provider shall comply with the labor market reporting requirements described in section 256B.4912, subdivision 1a.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 245.095, is amended to read:

245.095 LIMITS ON RECEIVING PUBLIC FUNDS.

Subdivision 1. **Prohibition.** (a) If a provider, vendor, or individual enrolled, licensed, ~~or~~ receiving funds under a grant contract, or registered in any program administered by the commissioner, including under the commissioner's powers and authorities in section 256.01, is excluded from ~~any~~ that program ~~administered by the commissioner, including under the commissioner's powers and authorities in section 256.01~~, the commissioner shall:

(1) prohibit the excluded provider, vendor, or individual from enrolling ~~or~~, becoming licensed, receiving grant funds, or registering in any other program administered by the commissioner~~.~~; and

(2) disenroll, revoke or suspend a license, disqualify, or debar the excluded provider, vendor, or individual in any other program administered by the commissioner.

(b) The duration of this prohibition, disenrollment, revocation, suspension, disqualification, or debarment must last for the longest applicable sanction or disqualifying period in effect for the provider, vendor, or individual permitted by state or federal law.

Subd. 2. **Definitions.** (a) For purposes of this section, the following definitions have the meanings given them.

(b) "Excluded" means disenrolled, ~~subject to license revocation or suspension, disqualified, or subject to vendor debarment~~ disqualified, has a license that has been revoked or suspended under chapter 245A, has been debarred or suspended under Minnesota Rules, part 1230.1150, or terminated from participation in medical assistance under section 256B.064.

(c) "Individual" means a natural person providing products or services as a provider or vendor.

(d) "Provider" means an owner, controlling individual, license holder, director, or managerial official.

Sec. 14. **[245A.24] MANDATORY REPORTING.**

All licensors employed by a county or the Department of Human Services must immediately report any suspected fraud to county human services investigators or the Department of Human Services Office of the Inspector General.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 245E.02, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 1a. **Provider definitions.** For the purposes of this section, "provider" includes:

(1) individuals or entities meeting the definition of provider in section 245E.01, subdivision 12; and

(2) owners and controlling individuals of entities identified in clause (1).

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256.98, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Wrongfully obtaining assistance.** A person who commits any of the following acts or omissions with intent to defeat the purposes of sections 145.891 to 145.897, the MFIP program formerly codified in sections 256.031 to 256.0361, the AFDC program formerly codified in sections 256.72 to 256.871, chapter 256B, 256D, 256I, 256J, 256K, or 256L, child care assistance programs, and emergency assistance programs under section 256D.06, is guilty of theft and shall be sentenced under section 609.52, subdivision 3, clauses (1) to (5):

(1) obtains or attempts to obtain, or aids or abets any person to obtain by means of a willfully false statement or representation, by intentional concealment of any material fact, or by impersonation or other fraudulent device, assistance or the continued receipt of assistance, to include child care assistance or vouchers produced according to sections 145.891 to 145.897 and MinnesotaCare services according to sections 256.9365, 256.94, and 256L.01 to 256L.15, to which the person is not entitled or assistance greater than that to which the person is entitled;

(2) knowingly aids or abets in buying or in any way disposing of the property of a recipient or applicant of assistance without the consent of the county agency; or

(3) obtains or attempts to obtain, alone or in collusion with others, the receipt of payments to which the individual is not entitled as a provider of subsidized child care, or by furnishing or concurring in a willfully false claim for child care assistance.

The continued receipt of assistance to which the person is not entitled or greater than that to which the person is entitled as a result of any of the acts, failure to act, or concealment described in this subdivision shall be deemed to be continuing offenses from the date that the first act or failure to act occurred.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256.98, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **Disqualification from program.** (a) Any person found to be guilty of wrongfully obtaining assistance by a federal or state court or by an administrative hearing determination, or waiver thereof, through a disqualification consent agreement, or as part of any approved diversion plan under section 401.065, or any court-ordered stay which carries with it any probationary or other conditions, in the Minnesota family investment program and any affiliated program to include the diversionary work program and the work participation cash benefit program, the food stamp or food support program, the general assistance program, housing support under chapter 256I, or the Minnesota supplemental aid program shall be disqualified from that program. The disqualification based on a finding or action by a federal or state court is a permanent disqualification. The disqualification based on an administrative hearing, or waiver thereof, through a disqualification consent agreement, or as part of any approved diversion plan under section 401.065, or any court-ordered stay which carries with it any probationary or other conditions must be for a period of two years for the first offense and a permanent disqualification for the second offense. In addition, any person disqualified from the Minnesota family investment program shall also be disqualified from the food stamp or food support program. The needs of that individual shall not be taken into consideration in determining the grant level for that assistance unit~~:~~.

~~(1) for one year after the first offense;~~

~~(2) for two years after the second offense; and~~

~~(3) permanently after the third or subsequent offense.~~

The period of program disqualification shall begin on the date stipulated on the advance notice of disqualification without possibility of postponement for administrative stay or administrative hearing and shall continue through completion unless and until the findings upon which the sanctions were imposed are reversed by a court of competent jurisdiction.

The period for which sanctions are imposed is not subject to review. The sanctions provided under this subdivision are in addition to, and not in substitution for, any other sanctions that may be provided for by law for the offense involved. A disqualification established through hearing or waiver shall result in the disqualification period beginning immediately unless the person has become otherwise ineligible for assistance. If the person is ineligible for assistance, the disqualification period begins when the person again meets the eligibility criteria of the program from which they were disqualified and makes application for that program.

(b) A family receiving assistance through child care assistance programs under chapter 119B with a family member who is found to be guilty of wrongfully obtaining child care assistance by a federal court, state court, or an administrative hearing determination or waiver, through a disqualification consent agreement, as part of an approved diversion plan under section 401.065, or a court-ordered stay with probationary or other conditions, is disqualified from child care assistance programs. The disqualifications ~~must be for periods of one year and two years for the first and second offenses, respectively. Subsequent violations must result in~~ based on a finding or action by a federal or state court is a permanent disqualification. The disqualification based on an administrative hearing determination or waiver, through a disqualification consent agreement, as part of an approved diversion plan under section 401.065, or a court-ordered stay with probationary or other conditions must be for a period of two years for the first offense and a permanent disqualification for the second offense. During the disqualification period, disqualification from any child care program must extend to all child care programs and must be immediately applied.

(c) A provider caring for children receiving assistance through child care assistance programs under chapter 119B is disqualified from receiving payment for child care services from the child care assistance program under chapter 119B when the provider is found to have wrongfully obtained child care assistance by a federal court, state court, or an administrative hearing determination or waiver under section 256.046, through a disqualification consent agreement, as part of an approved diversion plan under section 401.065, or a court-ordered stay with probationary or other conditions. The disqualification ~~must be for a period of one year for the first offense and two years for the second offense. Any subsequent violation must result in~~ based on a finding or action by a federal or state court is a permanent disqualification. The disqualification based on an administrative hearing determination or waiver under section 256.045, as part of an approved diversion plan under section 401.065, or a court-ordered stay with probationary or other conditions must be for a period of two years for the first offense and a permanent disqualification for the second

offense. The disqualification period must be imposed immediately after a determination is made under this paragraph. During the disqualification period, the provider is disqualified from receiving payment from any child care program under chapter 119B.

(d) Any person found to be guilty of wrongfully obtaining MinnesotaCare for adults without children and upon federal approval, all categories of medical assistance and remaining categories of MinnesotaCare, except for children through age 18, by a federal or state court or by an administrative hearing determination, or waiver thereof, through a disqualification consent agreement, or as part of any approved diversion plan under section 401.065, or any court-ordered stay which carries with it any probationary or other conditions, is disqualified from that program. The period of disqualification is one year after the first offense, two years after the second offense, and permanently after the third or subsequent offense. The period of program disqualification shall begin on the date stipulated on the advance notice of disqualification without possibility of postponement for administrative stay or administrative hearing and shall continue through completion unless and until the findings upon which the sanctions were imposed are reversed by a court of competent jurisdiction. The period for which sanctions are imposed is not subject to review. The sanctions provided under this subdivision are in addition to, and not in substitution for, any other sanctions that may be provided for by law for the offense involved.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256.987, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Electronic benefit transfer (EBT) card.** Cash benefits for the general assistance and Minnesota supplemental aid programs under chapter 256D and programs under chapter 256J must be issued on an EBT card ~~with~~. The name and photograph of the head of household and a list of family members authorized to use the EBT card must be printed on the card. The cardholder must show identification before making a purchase. The card must include the following statement: "It is unlawful to use this card to purchase tobacco products or alcoholic beverages." This card must be issued within 30 calendar days of an eligibility determination. During the initial 30 calendar days of eligibility, a recipient may have cash benefits issued on an EBT card without a name printed on the card. This card may be the same card on which food support benefits are issued and does not need to meet the requirements of this section.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256.987, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Prohibited purchases and returns.** (a) An individual with an EBT card issued for one of the programs listed under subdivision 1 is prohibited from using the EBT debit

card to purchase tobacco products and alcoholic beverages, as defined in section 340A.101, subdivision 2. Any prohibited purchases made under this subdivision shall constitute unlawful use and result in disqualification of the cardholder from the program as provided in subdivision 4.

(b) An item purchased with an EBT card that is returned must be credited back to the EBT card. It is prohibited to give the EBT cardholder cash for returned items purchased with an EBT card.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.02, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Vendor of medical care.** (a) "Vendor of medical care" means any person or persons furnishing, within the scope of the vendor's respective license, any or all of the following goods or services: medical, surgical, hospital, ambulatory surgical center services, optical, visual, dental and nursing services; drugs and medical supplies; appliances; laboratory, diagnostic, and therapeutic services; nursing home and convalescent care; screening and health assessment services provided by public health nurses as defined in section 145A.02, subdivision 18; health care services provided at the residence of the patient if the services are performed by a public health nurse and the nurse indicates in a statement submitted under oath that the services were actually provided; and such other medical services or supplies provided or prescribed by persons authorized by state law to give such services and supplies, including services under section 256B.4912. For purposes of this chapter, the term includes a person or entity that furnishes a good or service eligible for medical assistance or federally approved waiver plan payments under this chapter. The term includes, but is not limited to, directors and officers of corporations or members of partnerships who, either individually or jointly with another or others, have the legal control, supervision, or responsibility of submitting claims for reimbursement to the medical assistance program. The term only includes directors and officers of corporations who personally receive a portion of the distributed assets upon liquidation or dissolution, and their liability is limited to the portion of the claim that bears the same proportion to the total claim as their share of the distributed assets bears to the total distributed assets.

(b) "Vendor of medical care" also includes any person who is credentialed as a health professional under standards set by the governing body of a federally recognized Indian tribe authorized under an agreement with the federal government according to United States Code, title 25, section 450f, to provide health services to its members, and who through a tribal facility provides covered services to American Indian people within a contract health

service delivery area of a Minnesota reservation, as defined under Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, section 36.22.

(c) A federally recognized Indian tribe that intends to implement standards for credentialing health professionals must submit the standards to the commissioner of human services, along with evidence of meeting, exceeding, or being exempt from corresponding state standards. The commissioner shall maintain a copy of the standards and supporting evidence, and shall use those standards to enroll tribal-approved health professionals as medical assistance providers. For purposes of this section, "Indian" and "Indian tribe" mean persons or entities that meet the definition in United States Code, title 25, section 450b.

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.02, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 20. **Income.** Income is calculated using the adjusted gross income methodology under the Affordable Care Act. Income includes funds in personal or business accounts used to pay personal expenses including rent, mortgage, automobile-related expenses, utilities, food, and other personal expenses not directly related to the business, unless the funds are directly attributable to an exception to the income requirement specifically identified by the applicant.

Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.04, subdivision 21, is amended to read:

Subd. 21. **Provider enrollment.** (a) The commissioner shall enroll providers and conduct screening activities as required by Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, section 455, subpart E, including database checks, unannounced pre- and post-enrollment site visits, fingerprinting, and criminal background studies. A provider providing services from multiple licensed locations must enroll each licensed location separately. The commissioner may deny a provider's incomplete application for enrollment if a provider fails to respond to the commissioner's request for additional information within 60 days of the request.

(b) The commissioner must revalidate each provider under this subdivision at least once every five years. The commissioner may revalidate a personal care assistance agency under this subdivision once every three years. The commissioner shall conduct revalidation as follows:

(1) provide 30-day notice of revalidation due date to include instructions for revalidation and a list of materials the provider must submit to revalidate;

(2) notify the provider that fails to completely respond within 30 days of any deficiencies and allow an additional 30 days to comply; and

(3) give 60-day notice of termination and immediately suspend a provider's ability to bill for failure to remedy any deficiencies within the 30-day time period. The commissioner's decision to suspend the provider's ability to bill is not subject to an administrative appeal.

(c) The commissioner shall require that an individual rendering care to a recipient for the following covered services enroll as an individual provider and be identified on claims:

(1) consumer directed community supports; and

(2) qualified professionals supervising personal care assistant services according to section 256B.0659.

(d) The commissioner may suspend a provider's ability to bill for a failure to comply with any individual provider requirements or conditions of participation until the provider comes into compliance. The commissioner's decision to suspend the provider's ability to bill is not subject to an administrative appeal.

(e) Notwithstanding any other provision to the contrary, all correspondence and notifications, including notifications of termination and other actions, shall be delivered electronically to a provider's MN-ITS mailbox. For a provider that does not have a MN-ITS account and mailbox, notice shall be sent by first class mail.

(f) If the commissioner or the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services determines that a provider is designated "high-risk," the commissioner may withhold payment from providers within that category upon initial enrollment for a 90-day period. The withholding for each provider must begin on the date of the first submission of a claim.

~~(b)~~ (g) An enrolled provider that is also licensed by the commissioner under chapter 245A, or is licensed as a home care provider by the Department of Health under chapter 144A and has a home and community-based services designation on the home care license under section 144A.484, must designate an individual as the entity's compliance officer. The compliance officer must:

(1) develop policies and procedures to assure adherence to medical assistance laws and regulations and to prevent inappropriate claims submissions;

(2) train the employees of the provider entity, and any agents or subcontractors of the provider entity including billers, on the policies and procedures under clause (1);

(3) respond to allegations of improper conduct related to the provision or billing of medical assistance services, and implement action to remediate any resulting problems;

(4) use evaluation techniques to monitor compliance with medical assistance laws and regulations;

(5) promptly report to the commissioner any identified violations of medical assistance laws or regulations; and

(6) within 60 days of discovery by the provider of a medical assistance reimbursement overpayment, report the overpayment to the commissioner and make arrangements with the commissioner for the commissioner's recovery of the overpayment.

The commissioner may require, as a condition of enrollment in medical assistance, that a provider within a particular industry sector or category establish a compliance program that contains the core elements established by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

~~(c)~~ (h) The commissioner may revoke the enrollment of an ordering or rendering provider for a period of not more than one year, if the provider fails to maintain and, upon request from the commissioner, provide access to documentation relating to written orders or requests for payment for durable medical equipment, certifications for home health services, or referrals for other items or services written or ordered by such provider, when the commissioner has identified a pattern of a lack of documentation. A pattern means a failure to maintain documentation or provide access to documentation on more than one occasion. Nothing in this paragraph limits the authority of the commissioner to sanction a provider under the provisions of section 256B.064.

~~(d)~~ (i) The commissioner shall terminate or deny the enrollment of any individual or entity if the individual or entity has been terminated from participation in Medicare or under the Medicaid program or Children's Health Insurance Program of any other state.

~~(e)~~ (j) As a condition of enrollment in medical assistance, the commissioner shall require that a provider designated "moderate" or "high-risk" by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services or the commissioner permit the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, its agents, or its designated contractors and the state agency, its agents, or its designated contractors to conduct unannounced on-site inspections of any provider location. The commissioner shall publish in the Minnesota Health Care Program Provider Manual a list of provider types designated "limited," "moderate," or "high-risk," based on the criteria and standards used to designate Medicare providers in Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, section 424.518. The list and criteria are not subject to the requirements of chapter 14. The commissioner's designations are not subject to administrative appeal.

~~(f)~~ (k) As a condition of enrollment in medical assistance, the commissioner shall require that a high-risk provider, or a person with a direct or indirect ownership interest in the provider of five percent or higher, consent to criminal background checks, including fingerprinting, when required to do so under state law or by a determination by the commissioner or the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services that a provider is designated high-risk for fraud, waste, or abuse.

~~(g)~~ (l)(1) Upon initial enrollment, reenrollment, and notification of revalidation, all durable medical equipment, prosthetics, orthotics, and supplies (DMEPOS) medical suppliers meeting the durable medical equipment provider and supplier definition in clause (3), operating in Minnesota and receiving Medicaid funds must purchase a surety bond that is annually renewed and designates the Minnesota Department of Human Services as the obligee, and must be submitted in a form approved by the commissioner. For purposes of this clause, the following medical suppliers are not required to obtain a surety bond: a federally qualified health center, a home health agency, the Indian Health Service, a pharmacy, and a rural health clinic.

(2) At the time of initial enrollment or reenrollment, durable medical equipment providers and suppliers defined in clause (3) must purchase a surety bond of $50,000. If a revalidating provider's Medicaid revenue in the previous calendar year is up to and including $300,000, the provider agency must purchase a surety bond of $50,000. If a revalidating provider's Medicaid revenue in the previous calendar year is over $300,000, the provider agency must purchase a surety bond of $100,000. The surety bond must ~~allow for recovery of costs and fees in pursuing a claim on the bond~~ be in a form approved by the commissioner, renewed annually, and must allow for recovery of costs and fees in pursing a claim on the bond.

(3) "Durable medical equipment provider or supplier" means a medical supplier that can purchase medical equipment or supplies for sale or rental to the general public and is able to perform or arrange for necessary repairs to and maintenance of equipment offered for sale or rental.

~~(h)~~ (m) The Department of Human Services may require a provider to purchase a surety bond as a condition of initial enrollment, reenrollment, reinstatement, or continued enrollment if: (1) the provider fails to demonstrate financial viability, (2) the department determines there is significant evidence of or potential for fraud and abuse by the provider, or (3) the provider or category of providers is designated high-risk pursuant to paragraph ~~(a)~~ (e) and as per Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, section 455.450. The surety bond must be in an amount of $100,000 or ten percent of the provider's payments from Medicaid during the immediately preceding 12 months, whichever is greater. The surety bond must name the

Department of Human Services as an obligee and must allow for recovery of costs and fees in pursuing a claim on the bond. This paragraph does not apply if the provider currently maintains a surety bond under the requirements in section 256B.0659 or 256B.85.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2019, with the exception that the amendments to paragraph (l), clause (2), are effective January 1, 2020.

Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.056, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Asset limitations for certain individuals.** (a) To be eligible for medical assistance, a person must not individually own more than $3,000 in assets, or if a member of a household with two family members, husband and wife, or parent and child, the household must not own more than $6,000 in assets, plus $200 for each additional legal dependent. In addition to these maximum amounts, an eligible individual or family may accrue interest on these amounts, but they must be reduced to the maximum at the time of an eligibility redetermination. The accumulation of the clothing and personal needs allowance according to section 256B.35 must also be reduced to the maximum at the time of the eligibility redetermination. The value of assets that are not considered in determining eligibility for medical assistance is the value of those assets excluded under the Supplemental Security Income program for aged, blind, and disabled persons, with the following exceptions:

(1) household goods and personal effects are not considered;

(2) capital and operating assets of a trade or business that the local agency determines are necessary to the person's ability to earn an income are not considered. A bank account that contains personal income or assets or is used to pay personal expenses is not a capital or operating asset of a trade or business;

(3) motor vehicles are excluded to the same extent excluded by the Supplemental Security Income program;

(4) assets designated as burial expenses are excluded to the same extent excluded by the Supplemental Security Income program. Burial expenses funded by annuity contracts or life insurance policies must irrevocably designate the individual's estate as contingent beneficiary to the extent proceeds are not used for payment of selected burial expenses;

(5) for a person who no longer qualifies as an employed person with a disability due to loss of earnings, assets allowed while eligible for medical assistance under section 256B.057, subdivision 9, are not considered for 12 months, beginning with the first month of ineligibility

as an employed person with a disability, to the extent that the person's total assets remain within the allowed limits of section 256B.057, subdivision 9, paragraph (d);

(6) when a person enrolled in medical assistance under section 256B.057, subdivision 9, is age 65 or older and has been enrolled during each of the 24 consecutive months before the person's 65th birthday, the assets owned by the person and the person's spouse must be disregarded, up to the limits of section 256B.057, subdivision 9, paragraph (d), when determining eligibility for medical assistance under section 256B.055, subdivision 7. The income of a spouse of a person enrolled in medical assistance under section 256B.057, subdivision 9, during each of the 24 consecutive months before the person's 65th birthday must be disregarded when determining eligibility for medical assistance under section 256B.055, subdivision 7. Persons eligible under this clause are not subject to the provisions in section 256B.059; and

(7) effective July 1, 2009, certain assets owned by American Indians are excluded as required by section 5006 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Public Law 111-5. For purposes of this clause, an American Indian is any person who meets the definition of Indian according to Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, section 447.50.

(b) No asset limit shall apply to persons eligible under section 256B.055, subdivision 15.

Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.056, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Income.** (a) To be eligible for medical assistance, a person eligible under section 256B.055, subdivisions 7, 7a, and 12, may have income up to 100 percent of the federal poverty guidelines. Effective January 1, 2000, and each successive January, recipients of Supplemental Security Income may have an income up to the Supplemental Security Income standard in effect on that date.

(b) Effective January 1, 2014, to be eligible for medical assistance, under section 256B.055, subdivision 3a, a parent or caretaker relative may have an income up to 133 percent of the federal poverty guidelines for the household size.

(c) To be eligible for medical assistance under section 256B.055, subdivision 15, a person may have an income up to 133 percent of federal poverty guidelines for the household size.

(d) To be eligible for medical assistance under section 256B.055, subdivision 16, a child age 19 to 20 may have an income up to 133 percent of the federal poverty guidelines for the household size.

(e) To be eligible for medical assistance under section 256B.055, subdivision 3a, a child under age 19 may have income up to 275 percent of the federal poverty guidelines for the household size or an equivalent standard when converted using modified adjusted gross income methodology as required under the Affordable Care Act. Children who are enrolled in medical assistance as of December 31, 2013, and are determined ineligible for medical assistance because of the elimination of income disregards under modified adjusted gross income methodology as defined in subdivision 1a remain eligible for medical assistance under the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009, Public Law 111-3, until the date of their next regularly scheduled eligibility redetermination as required in subdivision 7a.

(f) In computing income to determine eligibility of persons under paragraphs (a) to (e) who are not residents of long-term care facilities, the commissioner shall: (1) disregard increases in income as required by Public Laws 94-566, section 503; 99-272; and 99-509. For persons eligible under paragraph (a), veteran aid and attendance benefits and Veterans Administration unusual medical expense payments are considered income to the recipient.; and (2) include all assets available to the applicant that are considered income according to the Internal Revenue Service. Income includes all deposits into accounts owned or controlled by the applicant, including amounts spent on personal expenses, including rent, mortgage, automobile-related expenses, utilities, and food and amounts received as salary or draws from business accounts and not otherwise excluded by federal or state laws. Income does not include a deposit specifically identified by the applicant as a loan or gift, for which the applicant provides the source, date, amount, and repayment terms.

Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.056, subdivision 7a, is amended to read:

Subd. 7a. **Periodic renewal of eligibility.** (a) The commissioner shall make an annual redetermination of eligibility ~~based on information contained in the enrollee's case file and other information available to the agency, including but not limited to information accessed through an electronic database, without requiring the enrollee to submit any information when sufficient data is available for the agency to renew eligibility~~.

(b) ~~If the commissioner cannot renew eligibility in accordance with paragraph (a),~~ The commissioner must provide the enrollee with a prepopulated renewal form containing eligibility information available to the agency and ~~permit~~ the enrollee ~~to~~ must submit the form with any corrections or additional information to the agency and sign the renewal form via any of the modes of submission specified in section 256B.04, subdivision 18.

(c) An enrollee who is terminated for failure to complete the renewal process may subsequently submit the renewal form and required information within four months after the date of termination and have coverage reinstated without a lapse, if otherwise eligible under this chapter.

(d) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), individuals eligible under subdivision 5 shall be required to renew eligibility every six months.

Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0625, subdivision 17, is amended to read:

Subd. 17. **Transportation costs.** (a) "Nonemergency medical transportation service" means motor vehicle transportation provided by a public or private person that serves Minnesota health care program beneficiaries who do not require emergency ambulance service, as defined in section 144E.001, subdivision 3, to obtain covered medical services.

(b) Medical assistance covers medical transportation costs incurred solely for obtaining emergency medical care or transportation costs incurred by eligible persons in obtaining emergency or nonemergency medical care when paid directly to an ambulance company, nonemergency medical transportation company, or other recognized providers of transportation services. Medical transportation must be provided by:

(1) nonemergency medical transportation providers who meet the requirements of this subdivision;

(2) ambulances, as defined in section 144E.001, subdivision 2;

(3) taxicabs that meet the requirements of this subdivision;

(4) public transit, as defined in section 174.22, subdivision 7; or

(5) not-for-hire vehicles, including volunteer drivers.

(c) Medical assistance covers nonemergency medical transportation provided by nonemergency medical transportation providers enrolled in the Minnesota health care programs. All nonemergency medical transportation providers must comply with the operating standards for special transportation service as defined in sections 174.29 to 174.30 and Minnesota Rules, chapter 8840~~, and in consultation with the Minnesota Department of Transportation~~. All drivers providing nonemergency medical transportation must be individually enrolled with the commissioner if the driver is a subcontractor for or employed by a provider that both has a base of operation located within a metropolitan county listed in section 473.121, subdivision 4, and is listed in paragraph (b), clause (1) or (3). All nonemergency medical transportation providers shall bill for nonemergency medical

transportation services in accordance with Minnesota health care programs criteria. Publicly operated transit systems, volunteers, and not-for-hire vehicles are exempt from the requirements outlined in this paragraph.

(d) An organization may be terminated, denied, or suspended from enrollment if:

(1) the provider has not initiated background studies on the individuals specified in section 174.30, subdivision 10, paragraph (a), clauses (1) to (3); or

(2) the provider has initiated background studies on the individuals specified in section 174.30, subdivision 10, paragraph (a), clauses (1) to (3), and:

(i) the commissioner has sent the provider a notice that the individual has been disqualified under section 245C.14; and

(ii) the individual has not received a disqualification set-aside specific to the special transportation services provider under sections 245C.22 and 245C.23.

(e) The administrative agency of nonemergency medical transportation must:

(1) adhere to the policies defined by the commissioner in consultation with the Nonemergency Medical Transportation Advisory Committee;

(2) pay nonemergency medical transportation providers for services provided to Minnesota health care programs beneficiaries to obtain covered medical services;

(3) provide data monthly to the commissioner on appeals, complaints, no-shows, canceled trips, and number of trips by mode; and

(4) by July 1, 2016, in accordance with subdivision 18e, utilize a web-based single administrative structure assessment tool that meets the technical requirements established by the commissioner, reconciles trip information with claims being submitted by providers, and ensures prompt payment for nonemergency medical transportation services.

(f) Until the commissioner implements the single administrative structure and delivery system under subdivision 18e, clients shall obtain their level-of-service certificate from the commissioner or an entity approved by the commissioner that does not dispatch rides for clients using modes of transportation under paragraph (i), clauses (4), (5), (6), and (7).

(g) The commissioner may use an order by the recipient's attending physician or a medical or mental health professional to certify that the recipient requires nonemergency medical transportation services. Nonemergency medical transportation providers shall perform driver-assisted services for eligible individuals, when appropriate. Driver-assisted service includes passenger pickup at and return to the individual's residence or place of business,

assistance with admittance of the individual to the medical facility, and assistance in passenger securement or in securing of wheelchairs, child seats, or stretchers in the vehicle.

Nonemergency medical transportation providers must take clients to the health care provider using the most direct route, and must not exceed 30 miles for a trip to a primary care provider or 60 miles for a trip to a specialty care provider, unless the client receives authorization from the local agency.

Nonemergency medical transportation providers may not bill for separate base rates for the continuation of a trip beyond the original destination. Nonemergency medical transportation providers must maintain trip logs, which include pickup and drop-off times, signed by the medical provider or client, whichever is deemed most appropriate, attesting to mileage traveled to obtain covered medical services. Clients requesting client mileage reimbursement must sign the trip log attesting mileage traveled to obtain covered medical services.

(h) The administrative agency shall use the level of service process established by the commissioner in consultation with the Nonemergency Medical Transportation Advisory Committee to determine the client's most appropriate mode of transportation. If public transit or a certified transportation provider is not available to provide the appropriate service mode for the client, the client may receive a onetime service upgrade.

(i) The covered modes of transportation are:

(1) client reimbursement, which includes client mileage reimbursement provided to clients who have their own transportation, or to family or an acquaintance who provides transportation to the client;

(2) volunteer transport, which includes transportation by volunteers using their own vehicle;

(3) unassisted transport, which includes transportation provided to a client by a taxicab or public transit. If a taxicab or public transit is not available, the client can receive transportation from another nonemergency medical transportation provider;

(4) assisted transport, which includes transport provided to clients who require assistance by a nonemergency medical transportation provider;

(5) lift-equipped/ramp transport, which includes transport provided to a client who is dependent on a device and requires a nonemergency medical transportation provider with a vehicle containing a lift or ramp;

(6) protected transport, which includes transport provided to a client who has received a prescreening that has deemed other forms of transportation inappropriate and who requires a provider: (i) with a protected vehicle that is not an ambulance or police car and has safety locks, a video recorder, and a transparent thermoplastic partition between the passenger and the vehicle driver; and (ii) who is certified as a protected transport provider; and

(7) stretcher transport, which includes transport for a client in a prone or supine position and requires a nonemergency medical transportation provider with a vehicle that can transport a client in a prone or supine position.

(j) The local agency shall be the single administrative agency and shall administer and reimburse for modes defined in paragraph (i) according to paragraphs (m) and (n) when the commissioner has developed, made available, and funded the web-based single administrative structure, assessment tool, and level of need assessment under subdivision 18e. The local agency's financial obligation is limited to funds provided by the state or federal government.

(k) The commissioner shall:

(1) in consultation with the Nonemergency Medical Transportation Advisory Committee, verify that the mode and use of nonemergency medical transportation is appropriate;

(2) verify that the client is going to an approved medical appointment; and

(3) investigate all complaints and appeals.

(l) The administrative agency shall pay for the services provided in this subdivision and seek reimbursement from the commissioner, if appropriate. As vendors of medical care, local agencies are subject to the provisions in section 256B.041, the sanctions and monetary recovery actions in section 256B.064, and Minnesota Rules, parts 9505.2160 to 9505.2245.

(m) Payments for nonemergency medical transportation must be paid based on the client's assessed mode under paragraph (h), not the type of vehicle used to provide the service. The medical assistance reimbursement rates for nonemergency medical transportation services that are payable by or on behalf of the commissioner for nonemergency medical transportation services are:

(1) $0.22 per mile for client reimbursement;

(2) up to 100 percent of the Internal Revenue Service business deduction rate for volunteer transport;

(3) equivalent to the standard fare for unassisted transport when provided by public transit, and $11 for the base rate and $1.30 per mile when provided by a nonemergency medical transportation provider;

(4) $13 for the base rate and $1.30 per mile for assisted transport;

(5) $18 for the base rate and $1.55 per mile for lift-equipped/ramp transport;

(6) $75 for the base rate and $2.40 per mile for protected transport; and

(7) $60 for the base rate and $2.40 per mile for stretcher transport, and $9 per trip for an additional attendant if deemed medically necessary.

(n) The base rate for nonemergency medical transportation services in areas defined under RUCA to be super rural is equal to 111.3 percent of the respective base rate in paragraph (m), clauses (1) to (7). The mileage rate for nonemergency medical transportation services in areas defined under RUCA to be rural or super rural areas is:

(1) for a trip equal to 17 miles or less, equal to 125 percent of the respective mileage rate in paragraph (m), clauses (1) to (7); and

(2) for a trip between 18 and 50 miles, equal to 112.5 percent of the respective mileage rate in paragraph (m), clauses (1) to (7).

(o) For purposes of reimbursement rates for nonemergency medical transportation services under paragraphs (m) and (n), the zip code of the recipient's place of residence shall determine whether the urban, rural, or super rural reimbursement rate applies.

(p) For purposes of this subdivision, "rural urban commuting area" or "RUCA" means a census-tract based classification system under which a geographical area is determined to be urban, rural, or super rural.

(q) The commissioner, when determining reimbursement rates for nonemergency medical transportation under paragraphs (m) and (n), shall exempt all modes of transportation listed under paragraph (i) from Minnesota Rules, part 9505.0445, item R, subitem (2).

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2020.

Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0625, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 17d. **Transportation services oversight.** The commissioner shall contract with a vendor or dedicate staff for oversight of providers of nonemergency medical transportation

services pursuant to the commissioner's authority in section 256B.04 and Minnesota Rules, parts 9505.2160 to 9505.2245.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2020.

Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0625, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 17e. **Transportation provider termination.** (a) A terminated nonemergency medical transportation provider, including all named individuals on the current enrollment disclosure form and known or discovered affiliates of the nonemergency medical transportation provider, is not eligible to enroll as a nonemergency medical transportation provider for five years following the termination.

(b) After the five-year period in paragraph (a), if a provider seeks to reenroll as a nonemergency medical transportation provider, the nonemergency medical transportation provider must be placed on a one-year probation period. During a provider's probation period, the commissioner shall complete unannounced site visits and request documentation to review compliance with program requirements.

Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0625, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 17f. **Transportation provider training.** The commissioner shall make available to providers of nonemergency medical transportation and all drivers training materials and online training opportunities regarding documentation requirements, documentation procedures, and penalties for failing to meet documentation requirements.

Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0625, subdivision 18h, is amended to read:

Subd. 18h. **Managed care.** ~~(a)~~ The following subdivisions apply to managed care plans and county-based purchasing plans:

(1) subdivision 17, paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (i), and (n);

(2) subdivision 18; and

(3) subdivision 18a.

~~(b) A nonemergency medical transportation provider must comply with the operating standards for special transportation service specified in sections 174.29 to 174.30 and~~

~~Minnesota Rules, chapter 8840. Publicly operated transit systems, volunteers, and not-for-hire vehicles are exempt from the requirements in this paragraph.~~

Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0625, subdivision 43, is amended to read:

Subd. 43. **Mental health provider travel time.** (a) Medical assistance covers provider travel time if a ~~recipient's individual treatment plan~~ recipient requires the provision of mental health services outside of the provider's ~~normal~~ usual place of business. ~~This does not include any travel time which is included in other billable services, and is only covered when the mental health service being provided to a recipient is covered under medical assistance.~~

(b) Mental health provider travel time under this subdivision covers the time the provider is in transit to deliver a mental health service to a recipient at a location that is not the provider's usual place of business or to the next location for delivery of a covered mental health service, and the time a provider is in transit returning from the location of the last recipient who received services on that day to the provider's usual place of business. A provider must travel the most direct route available. Mental health provider travel time does not include time for scheduled or unscheduled stops, meal breaks, or vehicle maintenance or repair, including refueling or vehicle emergencies. Recipient transportation is not covered under this subdivision.

(c) Mental health provider travel time under this subdivision is only covered when the mental health service being provided is covered under medical assistance and only when the covered service is delivered and billed. Mental health provider travel time is not covered when the mental health service being provided otherwise includes provider travel time or when the service is site based.

(d) If the first occurrence of mental health provider travel time in a day begins at a location other than the provider's usual place of business, the provider shall bill for the lesser of the travel time between the location and the recipient and the travel time between the provider's usual place of business and the recipient. This provision does not apply to mental health crisis services provided under section 256B.0624 outside of normal business hours if on-call staff are dispatched directly from a location other than the provider's usual place of business.

(e) Mental health provider travel time may be billed for not more than one round trip per recipient per day.

(f) As a condition of payment, a provider must document each occurrence of mental health provider travel time according to this subdivision. Program funds paid for mental

health provider travel time that is not documented according to this subdivision shall be recovered by the department. The documentation may be collected and maintained electronically or in paper form but must be made available and produced upon request. A provider must compile records that meet the following requirements for each occurrence:

(1) the record must be written in English and must be legible according to the standard of a reasonable person;

(2) the recipient's name and date of birth or individual identification number must be on each page of the record;

(3) the reason the provider must travel to provide services, if not otherwise documented in the recipient's individual treatment plan; and

(4) each entry in the record must document:

(i) the date on which the entry is made;

(ii) the date the travel occurred;

(iii) the printed last name, first name, and middle initial of the provider and the provider's identification number, if the provider has one;

(iv) the signature of the traveling provider stating that the provider understands that it is a federal crime to provide false information on service billings for medical assistance payments;

(v) the location of the provider's usual place of business;

(vi) the address, or the description if the address is not available, of both the origination site and destination site and the travel time for the most direct route from the origination site to the destination site;

(vii) any unusual travel conditions that may cause a need to bill for additional time over and above what an electronic source document shows the mileage and time necessary to travel from the origination site to destination site;

(viii) the time the provider left the origination site and the time the provider arrived at the destination site, with a.m. and p.m. designations; and

(ix) the electronic source documentation used to calculate the most direct route detailing driving directions, mileage, and time.

Sec. 32. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.064, subdivision 1b, is amended to read:

Subd. 1b. **Sanctions available.** The commissioner may impose the following sanctions for the conduct described in subdivision 1a: suspension or withholding of payments to a vendor and suspending or terminating participation in the program, or imposition of a fine under subdivision 2, paragraph (f). When imposing sanctions under this section, the commissioner shall consider the nature, chronicity, or severity of the conduct and the effect of the conduct on the health and safety of persons served by the vendor. The commissioner shall suspend a vendor's participation in the program for a minimum of five years if the vendor is convicted of a crime, received a stay of adjudication, or entered a court-ordered diversion program for an offense related to a provision of a health service under medical assistance or health care fraud. Regardless of imposition of sanctions, the commissioner may make a referral to the appropriate state licensing board.

Sec. 33. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.064, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Imposition of monetary recovery and sanctions.** (a) The commissioner shall determine any monetary amounts to be recovered and sanctions to be imposed upon a vendor of medical care under this section. Except as provided in paragraphs (b) and (d), neither a monetary recovery nor a sanction will be imposed by the commissioner without prior notice and an opportunity for a hearing, according to chapter 14, on the commissioner's proposed action, provided that the commissioner may suspend or reduce payment to a vendor of medical care, except a nursing home or convalescent care facility, after notice and prior to the hearing if in the commissioner's opinion that action is necessary to protect the public welfare and the interests of the program.

(b) Except when the commissioner finds good cause not to suspend payments under Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, section 455.23 (e) or (f), the commissioner shall withhold or reduce payments to a vendor of medical care without providing advance notice of such withholding or reduction if either of the following occurs:

(1) the vendor is convicted of a crime involving the conduct described in subdivision 1a; or

(2) the commissioner determines there is a credible allegation of fraud for which an investigation is pending under the program. A credible allegation of fraud is an allegation which has been verified by the state, from any source, including but not limited to:

(i) fraud hotline complaints;

(ii) claims data mining; and

(iii) patterns identified through provider audits, civil false claims cases, and law enforcement investigations.

Allegations are considered to be credible when they have an indicia of reliability and the state agency has reviewed all allegations, facts, and evidence carefully and acts judiciously on a case-by-case basis.

(c) The commissioner must send notice of the withholding or reduction of payments under paragraph (b) within five days of taking such action unless requested in writing by a law enforcement agency to temporarily withhold the notice. The notice must:

(1) state that payments are being withheld according to paragraph (b);

(2) set forth the general allegations as to the nature of the withholding action, but need not disclose any specific information concerning an ongoing investigation;

(3) except in the case of a conviction for conduct described in subdivision 1a, state that the withholding is for a temporary period and cite the circumstances under which withholding will be terminated;

(4) identify the types of claims to which the withholding applies; and

(5) inform the vendor of the right to submit written evidence for consideration by the commissioner.

The withholding or reduction of payments will not continue after the commissioner determines there is insufficient evidence of fraud by the vendor, or after legal proceedings relating to the alleged fraud are completed, unless the commissioner has sent notice of intention to impose monetary recovery or sanctions under paragraph (a). Upon conviction for a crime related to the provision, management, or administration of a health service under medical assistance, a payment held pursuant to this section by the commissioner or a managed care organization that contracts with the commissioner under section 256B.035 is forfeited to the commissioner or managed care organization, regardless of the amount charged in the criminal complaint or the amount of criminal restitution ordered.

(d) The commissioner shall suspend or terminate a vendor's participation in the program without providing advance notice and an opportunity for a hearing when the suspension or termination is required because of the vendor's exclusion from participation in Medicare. Within five days of taking such action, the commissioner must send notice of the suspension or termination. The notice must:

(1) state that suspension or termination is the result of the vendor's exclusion from Medicare;

(2) identify the effective date of the suspension or termination; and

(3) inform the vendor of the need to be reinstated to Medicare before reapplying for participation in the program.

(e) Upon receipt of a notice under paragraph (a) that a monetary recovery or sanction is to be imposed, a vendor may request a contested case, as defined in section 14.02, subdivision 3, by filing with the commissioner a written request of appeal. The appeal request must be received by the commissioner no later than 30 days after the date the notification of monetary recovery or sanction was mailed to the vendor. The appeal request must specify:

(1) each disputed item, the reason for the dispute, and an estimate of the dollar amount involved for each disputed item;

(2) the computation that the vendor believes is correct;

(3) the authority in statute or rule upon which the vendor relies for each disputed item;

(4) the name and address of the person or entity with whom contacts may be made regarding the appeal; and

(5) other information required by the commissioner.

(f) The commissioner may order a vendor to forfeit a fine for failure to fully document services according to standards in this chapter and Minnesota Rules, chapter 9505. The commissioner may assess fines if specific required components of documentation are missing. The fine for incomplete documentation shall equal 20 percent of the amount paid on the claims for reimbursement submitted by the vendor, or up to $5,000, whichever is less. If the commissioner determines that a vendor repeatedly violated this chapter or Minnesota Rules, chapter 9505, related to the provision of services to program recipients and the submission of claims for payment, the commissioner may order a vendor to forfeit a fine based on the nature, severity, and chronicity of the violations, in an amount of up to $5,000 or 20 percent of the value of the claims, whichever is greater.

(g) The vendor shall pay the fine assessed on or before the payment date specified. If the vendor fails to pay the fine, the commissioner may withhold or reduce payments and recover the amount of the fine. A timely appeal shall stay payment of the fine until the commissioner issues a final order.

Sec. 34. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.064, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 3. **Vendor mandates on prohibited hiring.** (a) The commissioner shall maintain and publish a list of each excluded individual and entity that was convicted of a crime related to the provision, management, or administration of a medical assistance health service, or where participation in the program was suspended or terminated under subdivision 2. A vendor that receives funding from medical assistance shall not: (1) employ an individual or entity who is on the exclusion list; or (2) enter into or maintain a business relationship with an individual or entity that is on the exclusion list.

(b) Before hiring or entering into a business transaction, a vendor shall check the exclusion list. The vendor shall check the exclusion list on a monthly basis and document the date and time with a.m. and p.m. designations that the exclusion list was checked and the name and title of the person who checked the exclusion list. The vendor shall: (1) immediately terminate a current employee on the exclusion list; and (2) immediately terminate a business relationship with an individual or entity on the exclusion list.

(c) A vendor's requirement to check the exclusion list and to terminate an employee on the exclusion list applies to each employee, even if the named employee is not responsible for direct patient care or direct submission of a claim to medical assistance. A vendor's requirement to check the exclusion list and terminate a business relationship with an individual or entity on the exclusion list applies to each business relationship, even if the named individual or entity is not responsible for direct patient care or direct submission of a claim to medical assistance.

(d) A vendor that employs or enters into or maintains a business relationship with an individual or entity on the exclusion list shall refund any payment related to a service rendered by an individual or entity on the exclusion list from the date the individual is employed or the date the individual is placed on the exclusion list, whichever is later, and a vendor may be subject to:

(1) sanctions under subdivision 2;

(2) a civil monetary penalty of up to $25,000 for each determination by the department that the vendor employed or contracted with an individual or entity on the exclusion list; and

(3) other fines or penalties allowed by law.

Sec. 35. **[256B.0646] CORRECTIVE ACTIONS FOR PEOPLE USING PERSONAL CARE ASSISTANCE SERVICES; MINNESOTA RESTRICTED RECIPIENT PROGRAM.**

(a) When there is abusive or fraudulent billing of personal care assistance services or community first services and supports under section 256B.85, the commissioner may place a recipient in the Minnesota restricted recipient program as defined in Minnesota Rules, part 9505.2165. A recipient placed in the Minnesota restricted recipient program under this section must:

(1) use a designated traditional personal care assistance provider agency;

(2) obtain a new assessment as described in section 256B.0911, including consultation with a registered or public health nurse on the long-term care consultation team under section 256B.0911, subdivision 3, paragraph (b), clause (2); and

(3) comply with additional conditions for the use of personal care assistance services or community first services and supports if the commissioner determines it is necessary to prevent future misuse of personal care assistance services or abusive or fraudulent billing related to personal care assistance services. These additional conditions may include, but are not limited to:

(i) the restriction of service authorizations to a duration of no more than one month; and

(ii) requiring a qualified professional to monitor and report services on a monthly basis.

(b) Placement in the Minnesota restricted recipient program under this section is subject to appeal according to section 256B.045.

Sec. 36. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0651, subdivision 17, is amended to read:

Subd. 17. **Recipient protection.** (a) Providers of home care services must provide each recipient with a copy of the home care bill of rights under section 144A.44 at least 30 days prior to terminating services to a recipient, if the termination results from provider sanctions under section 256B.064, such as a payment withhold, a suspension of participation, or a termination of participation. If a home care provider determines it is unable to continue providing services to a recipient, the provider must notify the recipient, the recipient's responsible party, and the commissioner 30 days prior to terminating services to the recipient because of an action under section 256B.064, and must assist the commissioner and lead agency in supporting the recipient in transitioning to another home care provider of the recipient's choice.

(b) In the event of a payment withhold from a home care provider, a suspension of participation, or a termination of participation of a home care provider under section 256B.064, the commissioner may inform the Office of Ombudsman for Long-Term Care and the lead agencies for all recipients with active service agreements with the provider. At the commissioner's request, the lead agencies must contact recipients to ensure that the recipients are continuing to receive needed care, and that the recipients have been given free choice of provider if they transfer to another home care provider. In addition, the commissioner or the commissioner's delegate may directly notify recipients who receive care from the provider that payments have been or will be withheld or that the provider's participation in medical assistance has been or will be suspended or terminated, if the commissioner determines that notification is necessary to protect the welfare of the recipients. For purposes of this subdivision, "lead agencies" means counties, tribes, and managed care organizations.

Sec. 37. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0659, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. ~~**Noncovered**~~ **Personal care assistance services not covered.** (a) Personal care assistance services are not eligible for medical assistance payment under this section when provided:

(1) by the recipient's spouse, parent of a recipient under the age of 18, paid legal guardian, licensed foster provider, except as allowed under section 256B.0652, subdivision 10, or responsible party;

(2) in order to meet staffing or license requirements in a residential or child care setting;

(3) solely as a child care or babysitting service; ~~or~~

(4) without authorization by the commissioner or the commissioner's designee~~.~~; or

(5) on dates not within the frequency requirements of subdivision 14, paragraph (c), and subdivision 19, paragraph (a).

(b) The following personal care services are not eligible for medical assistance payment under this section when provided in residential settings:

(1) when the provider of home care services who is not related by blood, marriage, or adoption owns or otherwise controls the living arrangement, including licensed or unlicensed services; or

(2) when personal care assistance services are the responsibility of a residential or program license holder under the terms of a service agreement and administrative rules.

(c) Other specific tasks not covered under paragraph (a) or (b) that are not eligible for medical assistance reimbursement for personal care assistance services under this section include:

(1) sterile procedures;

(2) injections of fluids and medications into veins, muscles, or skin;

(3) home maintenance or chore services;

(4) homemaker services not an integral part of assessed personal care assistance services needed by a recipient;

(5) application of restraints or implementation of procedures under section 245.825;

(6) instrumental activities of daily living for children under the age of 18, except when immediate attention is needed for health or hygiene reasons integral to the personal care services and the need is listed in the service plan by the assessor; and

(7) assessments for personal care assistance services by personal care assistance provider agencies or by independently enrolled registered nurses.

Sec. 38. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0659, subdivision 12, is amended to read:

Subd. 12. **Documentation of personal care assistance services provided.** (a) Personal care assistance services for a recipient must be documented daily by each personal care assistant, on a time sheet form approved by the commissioner. All documentation may be web-based, electronic, or paper documentation. The completed form must be submitted on a monthly basis to the provider and kept in the recipient's health record.

(b) The activity documentation must correspond to the personal care assistance care plan and be reviewed by the qualified professional.

(c) The personal care assistant time sheet must be on a form approved by the commissioner documenting time the personal care assistant provides services in the home. The following criteria must be included in the time sheet:

(1) full name of personal care assistant and individual provider number;

(2) provider name and telephone numbers;

(3) full name of recipient and either the recipient's medical assistance identification number or date of birth;

(4) consecutive dates, including month, day, and year, and arrival and departure times with a.m. or p.m. notations;

(5) signatures of recipient or the responsible party;

(6) personal signature of the personal care assistant;

(7) any shared care provided, if applicable;

(8) a statement that it is a federal crime to provide false information on personal care service billings for medical assistance payments; and

(9) dates and location of recipient stays in a hospital, care facility, or incarceration.

Sec. 39. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0659, subdivision 13, is amended to read:

Subd. 13. **Qualified professional; qualifications.** (a) The qualified professional must work for a personal care assistance provider agency ~~and~~, meet the definition of qualified professional under section 256B.0625, subdivision 19c, and enroll with the department as a qualified professional after clearing a background study. Before a qualified professional provides services, the personal care assistance provider agency must initiate a background study on the qualified professional under chapter 245C, and the personal care assistance provider agency must have received a notice from the commissioner that the qualified professional:

(1) is not disqualified under section 245C.14; or

(2) is disqualified, but the qualified professional has received a set aside of the disqualification under section 245C.22.

(b) The qualified professional shall perform the duties of training, supervision, and evaluation of the personal care assistance staff and evaluation of the effectiveness of personal care assistance services. The qualified professional shall:

(1) develop and monitor with the recipient a personal care assistance care plan based on the service plan and individualized needs of the recipient;

(2) develop and monitor with the recipient a monthly plan for the use of personal care assistance services;

(3) review documentation of personal care assistance services provided;

(4) provide training and ensure competency for the personal care assistant in the individual needs of the recipient; and

(5) document all training, communication, evaluations, and needed actions to improve performance of the personal care assistants.

(c) Effective July 1, 2011, the qualified professional shall complete the provider training with basic information about the personal care assistance program approved by the commissioner. Newly hired qualified professionals must complete the training within six months of the date hired by a personal care assistance provider agency. Qualified professionals who have completed the required training as a worker from a personal care assistance provider agency do not need to repeat the required training if they are hired by another agency, if they have completed the training within the last three years. The required training must be available with meaningful access according to title VI of the Civil Rights Act and federal regulations adopted under that law or any guidance from the United States Health and Human Services Department. The required training must be available online or by electronic remote connection. The required training must provide for competency testing to demonstrate an understanding of the content without attending in-person training. A qualified professional is allowed to be employed and is not subject to the training requirement until the training is offered online or through remote electronic connection. A qualified professional employed by a personal care assistance provider agency certified for participation in Medicare as a home health agency is exempt from the training required in this subdivision. When available, the qualified professional working for a Medicare-certified home health agency must successfully complete the competency test. The commissioner shall ensure there is a mechanism in place to verify the identity of persons completing the competency testing electronically.

Sec. 40. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0659, subdivision 14, is amended to read:

Subd. 14. **Qualified professional; duties.** (a) Effective January 1, ~~2010~~ 2020, all personal care assistants must be supervised by a qualified professional who is enrolled as an individual provider with the commissioner under section 256B.04, subdivision 21, paragraph (c).

(b) Through direct training, observation, return demonstrations, and consultation with the staff and the recipient, the qualified professional must ensure and document that the personal care assistant is:

(1) capable of providing the required personal care assistance services;

(2) knowledgeable about the plan of personal care assistance services before services are performed; and

(3) able to identify conditions that should be immediately brought to the attention of the qualified professional.

(c) The qualified professional shall evaluate the personal care assistant within the first 14 days of starting to provide regularly scheduled services for a recipient, or sooner as determined by the qualified professional, except for the personal care assistance choice option under subdivision 19, paragraph (a), clause (4). For the initial evaluation, the qualified professional shall evaluate the personal care assistance services for a recipient through direct observation of a personal care assistant's work. The qualified professional may conduct additional training and evaluation visits, based upon the needs of the recipient and the personal care assistant's ability to meet those needs. Subsequent visits to evaluate the personal care assistance services provided to a recipient do not require direct observation of each personal care assistant's work and shall occur:

(1) at least every 90 days thereafter for the first year of a recipient's services;

(2) every 120 days after the first year of a recipient's service or whenever needed for response to a recipient's request for increased supervision of the personal care assistance staff; and

(3) after the first 180 days of a recipient's service, supervisory visits may alternate between unscheduled phone or Internet technology and in-person visits, unless the in-person visits are needed according to the care plan.

(d) Communication with the recipient is a part of the evaluation process of the personal care assistance staff.

(e) At each supervisory visit, the qualified professional shall evaluate personal care assistance services including the following information:

(1) satisfaction level of the recipient with personal care assistance services;

(2) review of the month-to-month plan for use of personal care assistance services;

(3) review of documentation of personal care assistance services provided;

(4) whether the personal care assistance services are meeting the goals of the service as stated in the personal care assistance care plan and service plan;

(5) a written record of the results of the evaluation and actions taken to correct any deficiencies in the work of a personal care assistant; and

(6) revision of the personal care assistance care plan as necessary in consultation with the recipient or responsible party, to meet the needs of the recipient.

(f) The qualified professional shall complete the required documentation in the agency recipient and employee files and the recipient's home, including the following documentation:

(1) the personal care assistance care plan based on the service plan and individualized needs of the recipient;

(2) a month-to-month plan for use of personal care assistance services;

(3) changes in need of the recipient requiring a change to the level of service and the personal care assistance care plan;

(4) evaluation results of supervision visits and identified issues with personal care assistance staff with actions taken;

(5) all communication with the recipient and personal care assistance staff; and

(6) hands-on training or individualized training for the care of the recipient.

(g) The documentation in paragraph (f) must be done on agency templates.

(h) The services that are not eligible for payment as qualified professional services include:

(1) direct professional nursing tasks that could be assessed and authorized as skilled nursing tasks;

(2) agency administrative activities;

(3) training other than the individualized training required to provide care for a recipient; and

(4) any other activity that is not described in this section.

(i) The qualified professional shall notify the commissioner on a form prescribed by the commissioner, within 30 days of when a qualified professional is no longer employed by or otherwise affiliated with the personal care assistance agency for whom the qualified professional previously provided qualified professional services.

Sec. 41. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0659, subdivision 19, is amended to read:

Subd. 19. **Personal care assistance choice option; qualifications; duties.** (a) Under personal care assistance choice, the recipient or responsible party shall:

(1) recruit, hire, schedule, and terminate personal care assistants according to the terms of the written agreement required under subdivision 20, paragraph (a);

(2) develop a personal care assistance care plan based on the assessed needs and addressing the health and safety of the recipient with the assistance of a qualified professional as needed;

(3) orient and train the personal care assistant with assistance as needed from the qualified professional;

(4) effective January 1, 2010, supervise and evaluate the personal care assistant with the qualified professional, who is required to visit the recipient at least every 180 days;

(5) monitor and verify in writing and report to the personal care assistance choice agency the number of hours worked by the personal care assistant and the qualified professional;

(6) engage in an annual face-to-face reassessment to determine continuing eligibility and service authorization; and

(7) use the same personal care assistance choice provider agency if shared personal assistance care is being used.

(b) The personal care assistance choice provider agency shall:

(1) meet all personal care assistance provider agency standards;

(2) enter into a written agreement with the recipient, responsible party, and personal care assistants;

(3) not be related as a parent, child, sibling, or spouse to the recipient or the personal care assistant; and

(4) ensure arm's-length transactions without undue influence or coercion with the recipient and personal care assistant.

(c) The duties of the personal care assistance choice provider agency are to:

(1) be the employer of the personal care assistant and the qualified professional for employment law and related regulations including, but not limited to, purchasing and maintaining workers' compensation, unemployment insurance, surety and fidelity bonds, and liability insurance, and submit any or all necessary documentation including, but not limited to, workers' compensation ~~and~~, unemployment insurance, and labor market data required under section 256B.4912, subdivision 1a;

(2) bill the medical assistance program for personal care assistance services and qualified professional services;

(3) request and complete background studies that comply with the requirements for personal care assistants and qualified professionals;

(4) pay the personal care assistant and qualified professional based on actual hours of services provided;

(5) withhold and pay all applicable federal and state taxes;

(6) verify and keep records of hours worked by the personal care assistant and qualified professional;

(7) make the arrangements and pay taxes and other benefits, if any, and comply with any legal requirements for a Minnesota employer;

(8) enroll in the medical assistance program as a personal care assistance choice agency; and

(9) enter into a written agreement as specified in subdivision 20 before services are provided.

Sec. 42. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0659, subdivision 21, is amended to read:

Subd. 21. **Requirements for provider enrollment of personal care assistance provider agencies.** (a) All personal care assistance provider agencies must provide, at the time of enrollment, reenrollment, and revalidation as a personal care assistance provider agency in a format determined by the commissioner, information and documentation that includes, but is not limited to, the following:

(1) the personal care assistance provider agency's current contact information including address, telephone number, and e-mail address;

(2) proof of surety bond coverage. Upon new enrollment, or if the provider's Medicaid revenue in the previous calendar year is up to and including $300,000, the provider agency must purchase a surety bond of $50,000. If the Medicaid revenue in the previous year is over $300,000, the provider agency must purchase a surety bond of $100,000. The surety bond must be in a form approved by the commissioner, must be renewed annually, and must allow for recovery of costs and fees in pursuing a claim on the bond;

(3) proof of fidelity bond coverage in the amount of $20,000;

(4) proof of workers' compensation insurance coverage;

(5) proof of liability insurance;

(6) a description of the personal care assistance provider agency's organization identifying the names of all owners, managing employees, staff, board of directors, and the affiliations of the directors, owners, or staff to other service providers;

(7) a copy of the personal care assistance provider agency's written policies and procedures including: hiring of employees; training requirements; service delivery;

identification, prevention, detection, and reporting of fraud or any billing, record-keeping, or other administrative noncompliance; and employee and consumer safety including process for notification and resolution of consumer grievances, identification and prevention of communicable diseases, and employee misconduct;

(8) copies of all other forms the personal care assistance provider agency uses in the course of daily business including, but not limited to:

(i) a copy of the personal care assistance provider agency's time sheet if the time sheet varies from the standard time sheet for personal care assistance services approved by the commissioner, and a letter requesting approval of the personal care assistance provider agency's nonstandard time sheet;

(ii) the personal care assistance provider agency's template for the personal care assistance care plan; and

(iii) the personal care assistance provider agency's template for the written agreement in subdivision 20 for recipients using the personal care assistance choice option, if applicable;

(9) a list of all training and classes that the personal care assistance provider agency requires of its staff providing personal care assistance services;

(10) documentation that the personal care assistance provider agency and staff have successfully completed all the training required by this section;

(11) documentation of the agency's marketing practices;

(12) disclosure of ownership, leasing, or management of all residential properties that is used or could be used for providing home care services;

(13) documentation that the agency will use the following percentages of revenue generated from the medical assistance rate paid for personal care assistance services for employee personal care assistant wages and benefits: 72.5 percent of revenue in the personal care assistance choice option and 72.5 percent of revenue from other personal care assistance providers. The revenue generated by the qualified professional and the reasonable costs associated with the qualified professional shall not be used in making this calculation; ~~and~~

(14) effective May 15, 2010, documentation that the agency does not burden recipients' free exercise of their right to choose service providers by requiring personal care assistants to sign an agreement not to work with any particular personal care assistance recipient or for another personal care assistance provider agency after leaving the agency and that the agency is not taking action on any such agreements or requirements regardless of the date signed; and

(15) a copy of the personal care assistance provider agency's self-auditing policy and other materials demonstrating the personal care assistance provider agency's internal program integrity procedures.

(b) Personal care assistance provider agencies enrolling for the first time must also provide, at the time of enrollment as a personal care assistance provider agency in a format determined by the commissioner, information and documentation that includes proof of sufficient initial operating capital to support the infrastructure necessary to allow for ongoing compliance with the requirements of this section. Sufficient operating capital can be demonstrated as follows:

(1) copies of business bank account statements with at least $5,000 in cash reserves;

(2) proof of a cash reserve or business line of credit sufficient to equal three payrolls of the agency's current or projected business; and

(3) any other manner proscribed by the commissioner.

(c) Personal care assistance provider agencies shall provide the information specified in paragraph (a) to the commissioner at the time the personal care assistance provider agency enrolls as a vendor or upon request from the commissioner. The commissioner shall collect the information specified in paragraph (a) from all personal care assistance providers beginning July 1, 2009.

~~(c)~~ (d) All personal care assistance provider agencies shall require all employees in management and supervisory positions and owners of the agency who are active in the day-to-day management and operations of the agency to complete mandatory training as determined by the commissioner before enrollment of the agency as a provider. Employees in management and supervisory positions and owners who are active in the day-to-day operations of an agency who have completed the required training as an employee with a personal care assistance provider agency do not need to repeat the required training if they are hired by another agency, if they have completed the training within the past three years. By September 1, 2010, the required training must be available with meaningful access according to title VI of the Civil Rights Act and federal regulations adopted under that law or any guidance from the United States Health and Human Services Department. The required training must be available online or by electronic remote connection. The required training must provide for competency testing. Personal care assistance provider agency billing staff shall complete training about personal care assistance program financial management. This training is effective July 1, 2009. Any personal care assistance provider agency enrolled before that date shall, if it has not already, complete the provider training

within 18 months of July 1, 2009. Any new owners or employees in management and supervisory positions involved in the day-to-day operations are required to complete mandatory training as a requisite of working for the agency. Personal care assistance provider agencies certified for participation in Medicare as home health agencies are exempt from the training required in this subdivision. When available, Medicare-certified home health agency owners, supervisors, or managers must successfully complete the competency test.

(e) All personal care assistance provider agencies must provide, at the time of revalidation as a personal care assistance provider agency in a format determined by the commissioner, information and documentation that includes, but is not limited to, the following:

(1) documentation of the payroll paid for the preceding 12 months or other period as proscribed by the commissioner; and

(2) financial statements demonstrating compliance with paragraph (a), clause (13).

Sec. 43. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0659, subdivision 24, is amended to read:

Subd. 24. **Personal care assistance provider agency; general duties.** A personal care assistance provider agency shall:

(1) enroll as a Medicaid provider meeting all provider standards, including completion of the required provider training;

(2) comply with general medical assistance coverage requirements;

(3) demonstrate compliance with law and policies of the personal care assistance program to be determined by the commissioner;

(4) comply with background study requirements;

(5) verify and keep records of hours worked by the personal care assistant and qualified professional;

(6) not engage in any agency-initiated direct contact or marketing in person, by phone, or other electronic means to potential recipients, guardians, or family members;

(7) pay the personal care assistant and qualified professional based on actual hours of services provided;

(8) withhold and pay all applicable federal and state taxes;

(9) effective January 1, 2010, document that the agency uses a minimum of 72.5 percent of the revenue generated by the medical assistance rate for personal care assistance services for employee personal care assistant wages and benefits. The revenue generated by the

qualified professional and the reasonable costs associated with the qualified professional shall not be used in making this calculation;

(10) make the arrangements and pay unemployment insurance, taxes, workers' compensation, liability insurance, and other benefits, if any;

(11) enter into a written agreement under subdivision 20 before services are provided;

(12) report suspected neglect and abuse to the common entry point according to section 256B.0651;

(13) provide the recipient with a copy of the home care bill of rights at start of service; ~~and~~

(14) request reassessments at least 60 days prior to the end of the current authorization for personal care assistance services, on forms provided by the commissioner~~.~~; and

(15) comply with the labor market reporting requirements described in section 256B.4912, subdivision 1a.

Sec. 44. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.27, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Access to medical records.** The commissioner of human services, with the written consent of the recipient, on file with the local welfare agency, shall be allowed access to all personal medical records of medical assistance recipients solely for the purposes of investigating whether or not: (a) a vendor of medical care has submitted a claim for reimbursement, a cost report or a rate application which is duplicative, erroneous, or false in whole or in part, or which results in the vendor obtaining greater compensation than the vendor is legally entitled to; or (b) the medical care was medically necessary. ~~The vendor of medical care shall receive notification from the commissioner at least 24 hours before the commissioner gains access to such records.~~ When the commissioner is investigating a suspected overpayment of Medicaid funds, only after first conferring with the department's Office of Inspector General, and documenting the evidentiary basis for any decision to demand immediate access to medical records, the commissioner must be given immediate access without prior notice to the vendor's office during regular business hours and to documentation and records related to services provided and submission of claims for services provided. Denying the commissioner access to records is cause for the vendor's immediate suspension of payment or termination according to section 256B.064. The determination of provision of services not medically necessary shall be made by the commissioner. Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, a vendor of medical care shall not be subject

to any civil or criminal liability for providing access to medical records to the commissioner of human services pursuant to this section.

Sec. 45. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.4912, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 1a. **Annual labor market reporting.** (a) As determined by the commissioner, a provider of home and community-based services for the elderly under sections 256B.0913 and 256B.0915, home and community-based services for people with developmental disabilities under section 256B.092, and home and community-based services for people with disabilities under section 256B.49 shall submit data to the commissioner on the following:

(1) number of direct-care staff;

(2) wages of direct-care staff;

(3) hours worked by direct-care staff;

(4) overtime wages of direct-care staff;

(5) overtime hours worked by direct-care staff;

(6) benefits paid and accrued by direct-care staff;

(7) direct-care staff retention rates;

(8) direct-care staff job vacancies;

(9) amount of travel time paid;

(10) program vacancy rates; and

(11) other related data requested by the commissioner.

(b) The commissioner may adjust reporting requirements for a self-employed direct-care staff.

(c) For the purposes of this subdivision, "direct-care staff" means employees, including self-employed individuals and individuals directly employed by a participant in a consumer-directed service delivery option, providing direct service provision to people receiving services under this section. Direct-care staff does not include executive, managerial, or administrative staff.

(d) This subdivision also applies to a provider of personal care assistance services under section 256B.0625, subdivision 19a; community first services and supports under section

256B.85; nursing services and home health services under section 256B.0625, subdivision 6a; home care nursing services under section 256B.0625, subdivision 7; or day training and habilitation services for residents of intermediate care facilities for persons with developmental disabilities under section 256B.501.

(e) This subdivision also applies to financial management services providers for participants who directly employ direct-care staff through consumer support grants under section 256.476; the personal care assistance choice program under section 256B.0657, subdivisions 18 to 20; community first services and supports under section 256B.85; and the consumer-directed community supports option available under the alternative care program, the brain injury waiver, the community alternative care waiver, the community alternatives for disabled individuals waiver, the developmental disabilities waiver, the elderly waiver, and the Minnesota senior health option, except financial management services providers are not required to submit the data listed in paragraph (a), clauses (7) to (11).

(f) The commissioner shall ensure that data submitted under this subdivision is not duplicative of data submitted under any other section of this chapter or any other chapter.

(g) A provider shall submit the data annually on a date specified by the commissioner. The commissioner shall give a provider at least 30 calendar days to submit the data. If a provider fails to submit the requested data by the date specified by the commissioner, the commissioner may delay medical assistance reimbursement until the requested data is submitted.

(h) Individually identifiable data submitted to the commissioner in this section are considered private data on an individual, as defined by section 13.02, subdivision 12.

(i) The commissioner shall analyze data annually for workforce assessments and how the data impact service access.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2020.

Sec. 46. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.4912, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 11. **Home and community-based service billing requirements.** (a) A home and community-based service is eligible for reimbursement if:

(1) it is a service provided as specified in a federally approved waiver plan, as authorized under sections 256B.0913, 256B.0915, 256B.092, and 256B.49;

(2) if applicable, it is provided on days and times during the days and hours of operation specified on any license that is required under chapter 245A or 245D; or

(3) the home and community-based service provider has met the documentation requirements under section 256B.4912, subdivision 12, 13, 14, or 15.

A service that does not meet the criteria in this subdivision may be recovered by the department according to section 256B.064 and Minnesota Rules, parts 9505.2160 to 9505.2245.

(b) The provider must maintain documentation that all individuals providing service have attested to reviewing and understanding the following statement upon employment and annually thereafter.

"It is a federal crime to provide materially false information on service billings for medical assistance or services provided under a federally approved waiver plan, as authorized under Minnesota Statutes, sections 256B.0913, 256B.0915, 256B.092, and 256B.49."

Sec. 47. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.4912, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 12. **Home and community-based service documentation requirements.** (a) Documentation may be collected and maintained electronically or in paper form by providers, but must be made available and produced upon the request of the commissioner. Documentation of delivered services that comply with the electronic visit verification requirements under Laws 2017, First Special Session chapter 6, article 3, section 49, satisfy the requirements of this subdivision.

(b) Documentation of a delivered service must be in English and must be legible according to the standard of a reasonable person.

(c) If the service is reimbursed at an hourly or specified minute-based rate, each documentation of the provision of a service, unless otherwise specified, must include:

(1) the date the documentation occurred;

(2) the day, month, and year when the service was provided;

(3) the start and stop times with a.m. and p.m. designations, except for case management services as defined under sections 256B.0913, subdivision 7, 256B.0915, subdivision 1a, 256B.092, subdivision 1a, and 256B.49, subdivision 13;

(4) the service name or description of the service provided; and

(5) the name, signature, and title, if any, of the provider of service. If the service is provided by multiple staff members, the provider may designate a staff member responsible for verifying services and completing the documentation required by this paragraph.

(d) If the service is reimbursed at a daily rate or does not meet the requirements of subdivision 12, paragraph (c), each documentation of the provision of a service, unless otherwise specified, must include:

(1) the date the documentation occurred;

(2) the day, month, and year when the service was provided;

(3) the service name or description of the service provided; and

(4) the name, signature, and title, if any, of the person providing the service. If the service is provided by multiple staff, the provider may designate a staff person responsible for verifying services and completing the documentation required by this paragraph.

Sec. 48. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.4912, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 13. **Waiver transportation documentation and billing requirements.** (a) A waiver transportation service must meet the billing requirements under section 256B.4912, subdivision 11, to be eligible for reimbursement and must:

(1) be a waiver transportation service that is not covered by medical transportation under the Medicaid state plan; and

(2) be a waiver transportation service that is not included as a component of another waiver service.

(b) A waiver transportation service provider must meet the documentation requirements under section 256B.4912, subdivision 12, and must maintain:

(1) odometer and other records as provided in section 256B.0625, subdivision 17b, paragraph (b), clause (3), sufficient to distinguish an individual trip with a specific vehicle and driver for a waiver transportation service that is billed directly by the mile, except if the provider is a common carrier as defined by Minnesota Rules, part 9505.0315, subpart 1, item B, or a publicly operated transit system; and

(2) documentation demonstrating that a vehicle and a driver meets the standards determined by the Department of Human Services on vehicle and driver qualifications as described in section 256B.0625, subdivision 17, paragraph (c).

Sec. 49. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.4912, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 14. **Equipment and supply documentation requirements.** (a) An equipment and supply services provider must meet the documentation requirements under section 256B.4912, subdivision 12, and must, for each documentation of the provision of a service, include:

(1) the recipient's assessed need for the equipment or supply and the reason the equipment or supply is not covered by the Medicaid state plan;

(2) the type and brand name of the equipment or supply delivered to or purchased by the recipient, including whether the equipment or supply was rented or purchased;

(3) the quantity of the equipment or supplies delivered or purchased; and

(4) the cost of equipment or supplies if the amount paid for the service depends on the cost.

(b) A provider must maintain a copy of the shipping invoice or a delivery service tracking log or other documentation showing the date of delivery that proves the equipment or supply was delivered to the recipient or a receipt if the equipment or supply was purchased by the recipient.

Sec. 50. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.4912, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 15. **Adult day service documentation and billing requirements.** (a) A service defined as "adult day care" under section 245A.02, subdivision 2a, and licensed under Minnesota Rules, parts 9555.9600 to 9555.9730, must meet the documentation requirements under section 256B.4912, subdivision 12, and must maintain documentation of:

(1) a needs assessment and current plan of care according to section 245A.143, subdivisions 4 to 7, or Minnesota Rules, part 9555.9700, if applicable, for each recipient;

(2) attendance records as specified under section 245A.14, subdivision 14, paragraph (c); the date of attendance must be documented on the attendance record with the day, month, and year; and the pickup and drop-off time must be noted on the attendance record in hours and minutes with a.m. and p.m. designations;

(3) the monthly and quarterly program requirements in Minnesota Rules, part 9555.9710, subparts 1, items E and H, 3, 4, and 6, if applicable;

(4) the names and qualifications of the registered physical therapists, registered nurses, and registered dietitians who provide services to the adult day care or nonresidential program; and

(5) the location where the service was provided and, if the location is an alternate location from the primary place of service, the address, or if an address is not available, a description of both the origin and destination location, the length of time at the alternate location with a.m. and p.m. designations, and a list of participants who went to the alternate location.

(b) A provider cannot exceed its licensed capacity; if licensed capacity is exceeded, all Minnesota health care program payments for that date shall be recovered by the department.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective August 1, 2019.

Sec. 51. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.5014, is amended to read:

256B.5014 ~~FINANCIAL~~ REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

Subdivision 1. **Financial reporting.** All facilities shall maintain financial records and shall provide annual income and expense reports to the commissioner of human services on a form prescribed by the commissioner no later than April 30 of each year in order to receive medical assistance payments. The reports for the reporting year ending December 31 must include:

(1) salaries and related expenses, including program salaries, administrative salaries, other salaries, payroll taxes, and fringe benefits;

(2) general operating expenses, including supplies, training, repairs, purchased services and consultants, utilities, food, licenses and fees, real estate taxes, insurance, and working capital interest;

(3) property related costs, including depreciation, capital debt interest, rent, and leases; and

(4) total annual resident days.

Subd. 2. **Labor market reporting.** All intermediate care facilities shall comply with the labor market reporting requirements described in section 256B.4912, subdivision 1a.

Sec. 52. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.85, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

Subd. 10. **Agency-provider and FMS provider qualifications and duties.** (a) Agency-providers identified in subdivision 11 and FMS providers identified in subdivision 13a shall:

(1) enroll as a medical assistance Minnesota health care programs provider and meet all applicable provider standards and requirements;

(2) demonstrate compliance with federal and state laws and policies for CFSS as determined by the commissioner;

(3) comply with background study requirements under chapter 245C and maintain documentation of background study requests and results;

(4) verify and maintain records of all services and expenditures by the participant, including hours worked by support workers;

(5) not engage in any agency-initiated direct contact or marketing in person, by telephone, or other electronic means to potential participants, guardians, family members, or participants' representatives;

(6) directly provide services and not use a subcontractor or reporting agent;

(7) meet the financial requirements established by the commissioner for financial solvency;

(8) have never had a lead agency contract or provider agreement discontinued due to fraud, or have never had an owner, board member, or manager fail a state or FBI-based criminal background check while enrolled or seeking enrollment as a Minnesota health care programs provider; and

(9) have an office located in Minnesota.

(b) In conducting general duties, agency-providers and FMS providers shall:

(1) pay support workers based upon actual hours of services provided;

(2) pay for worker training and development services based upon actual hours of services provided or the unit cost of the training session purchased;

(3) withhold and pay all applicable federal and state payroll taxes;

(4) make arrangements and pay unemployment insurance, taxes, workers' compensation, liability insurance, and other benefits, if any;

(5) enter into a written agreement with the participant, participant's representative, or legal representative that assigns roles and responsibilities to be performed before services, supports, or goods are provided;

(6) report maltreatment as required under sections 626.556 and 626.557; ~~and~~

(7) comply with the labor market reporting requirements described in section 256B.4912, subdivision 1a; and

(8) comply with any data requests from the department consistent with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act under chapter 13.

Sec. 53. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256D.024, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Fleeing ~~felons~~ offenders.** An individual who is fleeing to avoid prosecution, or custody, or confinement after conviction for a crime ~~that is a felony~~ under the laws of the jurisdiction from which the individual flees~~, or in the case of New Jersey, is a high misdemeanor,~~ is ineligible to receive benefits under this chapter.

Sec. 54. **[256D.0245] DRUG TESTING INFORMATION FROM PROBATION OFFICERS.**

The local probation agency shall regularly provide a list of probationers who tested positive for an illegal controlled substance to the local social services agency, specifically the welfare fraud division, for purposes of section 256D.024.

Sec. 55. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256D.0515, is amended to read:

256D.0515 ASSET LIMITATIONS FOR FOOD STAMP HOUSEHOLDS.

All food stamp households must be determined eligible for the benefit discussed under section 256.029. Food stamp households must demonstrate that: (1) their gross income is equal to or less than 165 percent of the federal poverty guidelines for the same family size; and (2) they have financial resources, excluding vehicles, of less than $100,000.

Sec. 56. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256D.0516, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Food support reporting requirements.** The commissioner of human services shall implement simplified reporting as permitted under the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended, and the food stamp regulations in Code of Federal Regulations, title 7, part 273. Food support recipient households are required to report ~~periodically shall not be required to report more often than one time~~ every six months, and must report any changes in income, assets, or employment that affects eligibility within ten days of the date the change occurs. This provision shall not apply to households receiving food benefits under the Minnesota family investment program waiver.

Sec. 57. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256J.08, subdivision 47, is amended to read:

Subd. 47. **Income.** "Income" means cash or in-kind benefit, whether earned or unearned, received by or available to an applicant or participant that is not property under section 256P.02. An applicant must document that the property is not available to the applicant.

Sec. 58. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256J.21, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Income exclusions.** The following must be excluded in determining a family's available income:

(1) payments for basic care, difficulty of care, and clothing allowances received for providing family foster care to children or adults under Minnesota Rules, parts 9555.5050 to 9555.6265, 9560.0521, and 9560.0650 to 9560.0654, payments for family foster care for children under section 260C.4411 or chapter 256N, and payments received and used for care and maintenance of a third-party beneficiary who is not a household member;

(2) reimbursements for employment training received through the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, United States Code, title 20, chapter 73, section 9201;

(3) reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses incurred while performing volunteer services, jury duty, employment, or informal carpooling arrangements directly related to employment;

(4) all educational assistance, except the county agency must count graduate student teaching assistantships, fellowships, and other similar paid work as earned income and, after allowing deductions for any unmet and necessary educational expenses, shall count scholarships or grants awarded to graduate students that do not require teaching or research as unearned income;

(5) loans, regardless of purpose, from public or private lending institutions, governmental lending institutions, or governmental agencies;

(6) loans from private individuals, regardless of purpose, provided an applicant or participant ~~documents that the lender expects repayment~~ provides documentation of the source of the loan, dates, amount of the loan, and terms of repayment;

(7)(i) state income tax refunds; and

(ii) federal income tax refunds;

(8)(i) federal earned income credits;

(ii) Minnesota working family credits;

(iii) state homeowners and renters credits under chapter 290A; and

(iv) federal or state tax rebates;

(9) funds received for reimbursement, replacement, or rebate of personal or real property when these payments are made by public agencies, awarded by a court, solicited through public appeal, or made as a grant by a federal agency, state or local government, or disaster assistance organizations, subsequent to a presidential declaration of disaster;

(10) the portion of an insurance settlement that is used to pay medical, funeral, and burial expenses, or to repair or replace insured property;

(11) reimbursements for medical expenses that cannot be paid by medical assistance;

(12) payments by a vocational rehabilitation program administered by the state under chapter 268A, except those payments that are for current living expenses;

(13) in-kind income, including any payments directly made by a third party to a provider of goods and services. In-kind income does not include in-kind payments of living expenses;

(14) assistance payments to correct underpayments, but only for the month in which the payment is received;

(15) payments for short-term emergency needs under section 256J.626, subdivision 2;

(16) funeral and cemetery payments as provided by section 256.935;

(17) nonrecurring cash gifts of $30 or less, not exceeding $30 per participant in a calendar month;

(18) any form of energy assistance payment made through Public Law 97-35, Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981, payments made directly to energy providers by other public and private agencies, and any form of credit or rebate payment issued by energy providers;

(19) Supplemental Security Income (SSI), including retroactive SSI payments and other income of an SSI recipient;

(20) Minnesota supplemental aid, including retroactive payments;

(21) proceeds from the sale of real or personal property;

(22) adoption or kinship assistance payments under chapter 256N or 259A and Minnesota permanency demonstration title IV-E waiver payments;

(23) state-funded family subsidy program payments made under section 252.32 to help families care for children with developmental disabilities, consumer support grant funds

under section 256.476, and resources and services for a disabled household member under one of the home and community-based waiver services programs under chapter 256B;

(24) interest payments and dividends from property that is not excluded from and that does not exceed the asset limit;

(25) rent rebates;

(26) income earned by a minor caregiver, minor child through age 6, or a minor child who is at least a half-time student in an approved elementary or secondary education program;

(27) income earned by a caregiver under age 20 who is at least a half-time student in an approved elementary or secondary education program;

(28) MFIP child care payments under section 119B.05;

(29) all other payments made through MFIP to support a caregiver's pursuit of greater economic stability;

(30) income a participant receives related to shared living expenses;

(31) reverse mortgages;

(32) benefits provided by the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, United States Code, title 42, chapter 13A, sections 1771 to 1790;

(33) benefits provided by the women, infants, and children (WIC) nutrition program, United States Code, title 42, chapter 13A, section 1786;

(34) benefits from the National School Lunch Act, United States Code, title 42, chapter 13, sections 1751 to 1769e;

(35) relocation assistance for displaced persons under the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, United States Code, title 42, chapter 61, subchapter II, section 4636, or the National Housing Act, United States Code, title 12, chapter 13, sections 1701 to 1750jj;

(36) benefits from the Trade Act of 1974, United States Code, title 19, chapter 12, part 2, sections 2271 to 2322;

(37) war reparations payments to Japanese Americans and Aleuts under United States Code, title 50, sections 1989 to 1989d;

(38) payments to veterans or their dependents as a result of legal settlements regarding Agent Orange or other chemical exposure under Public Law 101-239, section 10405, paragraph (a)(2)(E);

(39) income that is otherwise specifically excluded from MFIP consideration in federal law, state law, or federal regulation;

(40) security and utility deposit refunds;

(41) American Indian tribal land settlements excluded under Public Laws 98-123, 98-124, and 99-377 to the Mississippi Band Chippewa Indians of White Earth, Leech Lake, and Mille Lacs reservations and payments to members of the White Earth Band, under United States Code, title 25, chapter 9, section 331, and chapter 16, section 1407;

(42) all income of the minor parent's parents and stepparents when determining the grant for the minor parent in households that include a minor parent living with parents or stepparents on MFIP with other children;

(43) income of the minor parent's parents and stepparents equal to 200 percent of the federal poverty guideline for a family size not including the minor parent and the minor parent's child in households that include a minor parent living with parents or stepparents not on MFIP when determining the grant for the minor parent. The remainder of income is deemed as specified in section 256J.37, subdivision 1b;

(44) payments made to children eligible for relative custody assistance under section 257.85;

(45) vendor payments for goods and services made on behalf of a client unless the client has the option of receiving the payment in cash;

(46) the principal portion of a contract for deed payment;

(47) cash payments to individuals enrolled for full-time service as a volunteer under AmeriCorps programs including AmeriCorps VISTA, AmeriCorps State, AmeriCorps National, and AmeriCorps NCCC;

(48) housing assistance grants under section 256J.35, paragraph (a); and

(49) child support payments of up to $100 for an assistance unit with one child and up to $200 for an assistance unit with two or more children.

Sec. 59. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256J.26, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Fleeing ~~felons~~ offenders.** An individual who is fleeing to avoid prosecution, or custody, or confinement after conviction for a crime ~~that is a felony~~ under the laws of the jurisdiction from which the individual flees~~, or in the case of New Jersey, is a high misdemeanor,~~ is disqualified from receiving MFIP.

Sec. 60. **[256J.265] DRUG TESTING INFORMATION FROM PROBATION OFFICERS.**

The local probation agency shall regularly provide a list of probationers who tested positive for an illegal controlled substance to the local social services agency, specifically the welfare fraud division, for purposes of section 256J.26.

Sec. 61. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256L.01, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Income.** "Income" has the meaning given for modified adjusted gross income, as defined in Code of Federal Regulations, title 26, section 1.36B-1, and means a household's current income, or if income fluctuates month to month, the income for the 12-month eligibility period. Income includes amounts deposited into checking and savings accounts for personal expenses including rent, mortgage, automobile-related expenses, utilities, and food.

Sec. 62. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256P.04, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Factors to be verified.** (a) The agency shall verify the following at application:

(1) identity of adults;

(2) age, if necessary to determine eligibility;

(3) immigration status;

(4) income;

(5) spousal support and child support payments made to persons outside the household;

(6) vehicles;

(7) checking and savings accounts~~;~~. Verification of checking and savings accounts must include the source of deposits into accounts; identification of any loans, including the date, source, amount, and terms of repayment; identification of deposits for personal expenses including rent, mortgage, automobile-related expenses, utilities, and food;

(8) inconsistent information, if related to eligibility;

(9) residence;

(10) Social Security number; ~~and~~

(11) use of nonrecurring income under section 256P.06, subdivision 3, clause (2), item (ix), for the intended purpose for which it was given and received~~.~~;

(12) loans. Verification of loans must include the source, the full amount, and repayment terms; and

(13) direct or indirect gifts of money.

(b) Applicants who are qualified noncitizens and victims of domestic violence as defined under section 256J.08, subdivision 73, clause (7), are not required to verify the information in paragraph (a), clause (10). When a Social Security number is not provided to the agency for verification, this requirement is satisfied when each member of the assistance unit cooperates with the procedures for verification of Social Security numbers, issuance of duplicate cards, and issuance of new numbers which have been established jointly between the Social Security Administration and the commissioner.

Sec. 63. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256P.06, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Income inclusions.** The following must be included in determining the income of an assistance unit:

(1) earned income:

(i) calculated according to Minnesota Rules, part 3400.0170, subpart 7, for earned income from self-employment, except if the participant is drawing a salary, taking a draw from the business, or using the business account to pay personal expenses including rent, mortgage, automobile-related expenses, utilities, or food, not directly related to the business, the salary or payment must be treated as earned income; and

(ii) excluding expenses listed in Minnesota Rules, part 3400.0170, subpart 8, items A to I and M to P; and

(2) unearned income, which includes:

(i) interest and dividends from investments and savings;

(ii) capital gains as defined by the Internal Revenue Service from any sale of real property;

(iii) proceeds from rent and contract for deed payments in excess of the principal and interest portion owed on property;

(iv) income from trusts, excluding special needs and supplemental needs trusts;

(v) interest income from loans made by the participant or household;

(vi) cash prizes and winnings;

(vii) unemployment insurance income;

(viii) retirement, survivors, and disability insurance payments;

(ix) nonrecurring income over $60 per quarter unless earmarked and used for the purpose for which it is intended. Income and use of this income is subject to verification requirements under section 256P.04;

(x) retirement benefits;

(xi) cash assistance benefits, as defined by each program in chapters 119B, 256D, 256I, and 256J;

(xii) tribal per capita payments unless excluded by federal and state law;

(xiii) income and payments from service and rehabilitation programs that meet or exceed the state's minimum wage rate;

(xiv) income from members of the United States armed forces unless excluded from income taxes according to federal or state law;

(xv) all child support payments for programs under chapters 119B, 256D, and 256I;

(xvi) the amount of child support received that exceeds $100 for assistance units with one child and $200 for assistance units with two or more children for programs under chapter 256J; and

(xvii) spousal support.

Sec. 64. Laws 2017, First Special Session chapter 6, article 3, section 49, is amended to read:

Sec. 49. **ELECTRONIC ~~SERVICE DELIVERY DOCUMENTATION SYSTEM~~ VISIT VERIFICATION.**

Subdivision 1. **Documentation; establishment.** The commissioner of human services shall establish implementation requirements and standards for ~~an~~ electronic ~~service delivery documentation system~~ visit verification to comply with the 21st Century Cures Act, Public Law 114-255. Within available appropriations, the commissioner shall take steps to comply with the electronic visit verification requirements in the 21st Century Cures Act, Public Law 114-255.

Subd. 2. **Definitions.** (a) For purposes of this section, the terms in this subdivision have the meanings given them.

(b) "Electronic ~~service delivery documentation~~ visit verification" means the electronic documentation of the:

(1) type of service performed;

(2) individual receiving the service;

(3) date of the service;

(4) location of the service delivery;

(5) individual providing the service; and

(6) time the service begins and ends.

(c) "Electronic ~~service delivery documentation~~ visit verification system" means a system that provides electronic ~~service delivery documentation~~ verification of services that complies with the 21st Century Cures Act, Public Law 114-255, and the requirements of subdivision 3.

(d) "Service" means one of the following:

(1) personal care assistance services as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.0625, subdivision 19a, and provided according to Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.0659; ~~or~~

(2) community first services and supports under Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.85;

(3) home health services under Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.0625, subdivision 6a; or

(4) other medical supplies and equipment or home and community-based services that are required to be electronically verified by the 21st Century Cures Act, Public Law 114-255.

Subd. 3. **System requirements.** (a) In developing implementation requirements for ~~an~~ electronic ~~service delivery documentation system~~ visit verification, the commissioner shall ~~consider electronic visit verification systems and other electronic service delivery documentation methods. The commissioner shall convene stakeholders that will be impacted by an electronic service delivery system, including service providers and their representatives, service recipients and their representatives, and, as appropriate, those with expertise in the development and operation of an electronic service delivery documentation system, to~~ ensure that the requirements:

(1) are minimally administratively and financially burdensome to a provider;

(2) are minimally burdensome to the service recipient and the least disruptive to the service recipient in receiving and maintaining allowed services;

(3) consider existing best practices and use of electronic ~~service delivery documentation~~ visit verification;

(4) are conducted according to all state and federal laws;

(5) are effective methods for preventing fraud when balanced against the requirements of clauses (1) and (2); and

(6) are consistent with the Department of Human Services' policies related to covered services, flexibility of service use, and quality assurance.

(b) The commissioner shall make training available to providers on the electronic ~~service delivery documentation~~ visit verification system requirements.

(c) The commissioner shall establish baseline measurements related to preventing fraud and establish measures to determine the effect of electronic ~~service delivery documentation~~ visit verification requirements on program integrity.

(d) The commissioner shall make a state-selected electronic visit verification system available to providers of services.

Subd. 3a. **Provider requirements.** (a) Providers of services may select their own electronic visit verification system that meets the requirements established by the commissioner.

(b) All electronic visit verification systems used by providers to comply with the requirements established by the commissioner must provide data to the commissioner in a format and at a frequency to be established by the commissioner.

(c) Providers must implement the electronic visit verification systems required under this section by January 1, 2020, for personal care services and by January 1, 2023, for home health services in accordance with the 21st Century Cures Act, Public Law 114-255, and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services guidelines. For the purposes of this paragraph, "personal care services" and "home health services" have the meanings given in United States Code, title 42, section 1396b(l)(5).

(d) Notwithstanding paragraph (c), the commissioner of human services shall take no enforcement actions, including reducing reimbursement rates, against a provider for failing to comply with this section until six months after the commissioner has fulfilled the commissioner's obligations under subdivision 3, paragraphs (b) and (d), including making an electronic visit verification data aggregator available to providers of services. If, during this six-month period, federal financial participation in reimbursement for provided services

is denied because a provider is not in compliance with this section, the commissioner shall use state-only funds to pay the full rate for provided services.

~~Subd. 4. **Legislative report.** (a) The commissioner shall submit a report by January 15, 2018, to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over human services with recommendations, based on the requirements of subdivision 3, to establish electronic service delivery documentation system requirements and standards. The report shall identify:~~

~~(1) the essential elements necessary to operationalize a base-level electronic service delivery documentation system to be implemented by January 1, 2019; and~~

~~(2) enhancements to the base-level electronic service delivery documentation system to be implemented by January 1, 2019, or after, with projected operational costs and the costs and benefits for system enhancements.~~

~~(b) The report must also identify current regulations on service providers that are either inefficient, minimally effective, or will be unnecessary with the implementation of an electronic service delivery documentation system.~~

Sec. 65. **DIRECTIONS TO COMMISSIONER; NEMT DRIVER ENROLLMENT IMPACT.**

By August 1, 2021, the commissioner of human services shall issue a report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the house of representatives and senate committees with jurisdiction over health and human services. The commissioner must include in the report the commissioner's findings regarding the impact of driver enrollment under Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.0625, subdivision 17, paragraph (c), on the program integrity of the nonemergency medical transportation program. The commissioner must include a recommendation, based on the findings in the report, regarding expanding the driver enrollment requirement.

Sec. 66. **UNIVERSAL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER FOR CHILDREN IN EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS.**

By July 1, 2020, the commissioners of the Departments of Education, Health, and Human Services shall identify a process to establish and implement a universal identification number for children participating in early childhood programs to eliminate potential duplication in programs. The commissioners shall report the identified process to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over health, human services,

and education. The commissioners shall implement the statewide universal identification number for children by July 1, 2021. A universal identification number established and implemented under this section is private data on individuals, as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 13.02, subdivision 12, except that the commissioners of education, health, and human services may share the universal identification number with each other pursuant to their data sharing authority under Minnesota Statutes, section 13.46, subdivision 2, clause (9), and Minnesota Statutes, section 145A.17, subdivision 3, paragraph (e).

Sec. 67. **DIRECTION TO COMMISSIONER; FEDERAL WAIVER FOR MEDICAL ASSISTANCE SELF-ATTESTATION REMOVAL.**

The commissioner of human services shall seek all necessary federal waivers to implement the removal of the self-attestation when establishing eligibility for medical assistance.

Sec. 68. **REVISOR'S INSTRUCTION.**

The revisor of statutes shall codify Laws 2017, First Special Session chapter 6, article 3, section 49, as amended in this act, in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 256B.

Sec. 69. **REPEALER.**

Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0705, is repealed.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2020.

ARTICLE 2
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICES

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 252.27, subdivision 2a, is amended to read:

Subd. 2a. **Contribution amount.** (a) The natural or adoptive parents of a minor child, not including a child determined eligible for medical assistance without consideration of parental income under the TEFRA option or for the purposes of accessing home and community-based waiver services, must contribute to the cost of services used by making monthly payments on a sliding scale based on income, unless the child is married or has been married, parental rights have been terminated, or the child's adoption is subsidized according to chapter 259A or through title IV-E of the Social Security Act. The parental contribution is a partial or full payment for medical services provided for diagnostic, therapeutic, curing, treating, mitigating, rehabilitation, maintenance, and personal care

services as defined in United States Code, title 26, section 213, needed by the child with a chronic illness or disability.

(b) For households with adjusted gross income equal to or greater than 275 percent of federal poverty guidelines, the parental contribution shall be computed by applying the following schedule of rates to the adjusted gross income of the natural or adoptive parents:

(1) if the adjusted gross income is equal to or greater than 275 percent of federal poverty guidelines and less than or equal to 545 percent of federal poverty guidelines, the parental contribution shall be determined using a sliding fee scale established by the commissioner of human services which begins at 1.94 percent of adjusted gross income at 275 percent of federal poverty guidelines and increases to 5.29 percent of adjusted gross income for those with adjusted gross income up to 545 percent of federal poverty guidelines;

(2) if the adjusted gross income is greater than 545 percent of federal poverty guidelines and less than 675 percent of federal poverty guidelines, the parental contribution shall be 5.29 percent of adjusted gross income;

(3) if the adjusted gross income is equal to or greater than 675 percent of federal poverty guidelines and less than 975 percent of federal poverty guidelines, the parental contribution shall be determined using a sliding fee scale established by the commissioner of human services which begins at 5.29 percent of adjusted gross income at 675 percent of federal poverty guidelines and increases to 7.05 percent of adjusted gross income for those with adjusted gross income up to 975 percent of federal poverty guidelines; and

(4) if the adjusted gross income is equal to or greater than 975 percent of federal poverty guidelines, the parental contribution shall be 8.81 percent of adjusted gross income.

If the child lives with the parent, the annual adjusted gross income is reduced by $2,400 prior to calculating the parental contribution. If the child resides in an institution specified in section 256B.35, the parent is responsible for the personal needs allowance specified under that section in addition to the parental contribution determined under this section. The parental contribution is reduced by any amount required to be paid directly to the child pursuant to a court order, but only if actually paid.

(c) The household size to be used in determining the amount of contribution under paragraph (b) includes natural and adoptive parents and their dependents, including the child receiving services. Adjustments in the contribution amount due to annual changes in the federal poverty guidelines shall be implemented on the first day of July following publication of the changes.

(d) For purposes of paragraph (b), "income" means the adjusted gross income of the natural or adoptive parents determined according to the previous year's federal tax form, except, effective retroactive to July 1, 2003, taxable capital gains to the extent the funds have been used to purchase a home shall not be counted as income.

(e) The contribution shall be explained in writing to the parents at the time eligibility for services is being determined. The contribution shall be made on a monthly basis effective with the first month in which the child receives services. Annually upon redetermination or at termination of eligibility, if the contribution exceeded the cost of services provided, the local agency or the state shall reimburse that excess amount to the parents, either by direct reimbursement if the parent is no longer required to pay a contribution, or by a reduction in or waiver of parental fees until the excess amount is exhausted. All reimbursements must include a notice that the amount reimbursed may be taxable income if the parent paid for the parent's fees through an employer's health care flexible spending account under the Internal Revenue Code, section 125, and that the parent is responsible for paying the taxes owed on the amount reimbursed.

(f) The monthly contribution amount must be reviewed at least every 12 months; when there is a change in household size; and when there is a loss of or gain in income from one month to another in excess of ten percent. The local agency shall mail a written notice 30 days in advance of the effective date of a change in the contribution amount. A decrease in the contribution amount is effective in the month that the parent verifies a reduction in income or change in household size.

(g) Parents of a minor child who do not live with each other shall each pay the contribution required under paragraph (a). An amount equal to the annual court-ordered child support payment actually paid on behalf of the child receiving services shall be deducted from the adjusted gross income of the parent making the payment prior to calculating the parental contribution under paragraph (b).

(h) The contribution under paragraph (b) shall be increased by an additional five percent if the local agency determines that insurance coverage is available but not obtained for the child. For purposes of this section, "available" means the insurance is a benefit of employment for a family member at an annual cost of no more than five percent of the family's annual income. For purposes of this section, "insurance" means health and accident insurance coverage, enrollment in a nonprofit health service plan, health maintenance organization, self-insured plan, or preferred provider organization.

Parents who have more than one child receiving services shall not be required to pay more than the amount for the child with the highest expenditures. There shall be no resource contribution from the parents. The parent shall not be required to pay a contribution in excess of the cost of the services provided to the child, not counting payments made to school districts for education-related services. Notice of an increase in fee payment must be given at least 30 days before the increased fee is due.

(i) The contribution under paragraph (b) shall be reduced by $300 per fiscal year if, in the 12 months prior to July 1:

(1) the parent applied for insurance for the child;

(2) the insurer denied insurance;

(3) the parents submitted a complaint or appeal, in writing to the insurer, submitted a complaint or appeal, in writing, to the commissioner of health or the commissioner of commerce, or litigated the complaint or appeal; and

(4) as a result of the dispute, the insurer reversed its decision and granted insurance.

For purposes of this section, "insurance" has the meaning given in paragraph (h).

A parent who has requested a reduction in the contribution amount under this paragraph shall submit proof in the form and manner prescribed by the commissioner or county agency, including, but not limited to, the insurer's denial of insurance, the written letter or complaint of the parents, court documents, and the written response of the insurer approving insurance. The determinations of the commissioner or county agency under this paragraph are not rules subject to chapter 14.

Sec. 2. **[256.4751] PARENT-TO-PARENT PEER SUPPORT GRANTS.**

(a) The commissioner shall make available grants to organizations to support parent-to-parent peer support programs that provide information and emotional support for families of children and youth with special health care needs.

(b) For the purposes of this section, "special health care needs" means disabilities, chronic illnesses or conditions, health-related educational or behavioral problems, or the risk of developing disabilities, conditions, illnesses, or problems.

(c) Eligible organizations must have an established parent-to-parent program that:

(1) conducts outreach and support to parents or guardians of a child or youth with special health care needs;

(2) provides to parents and guardians information, tools, and training to support their child and to successfully navigate the health and human services systems;

(3) facilitates ongoing peer support for parents and guardians from trained volunteer support parents;

(4) has staff and volunteers located statewide; and

(5) is affiliated with and communicates regularly with other parent-to-parent programs and national organizations to ensure best practices are implemented.

(d) Grant recipients must use grant funds for the purposes in paragraph (c).

(e) Grant recipients must report to the commissioner of human services annually by January 15 on the services and programs funded by the appropriation. The report must include measurable outcomes from the previous year, including the number of families served and the number of volunteer support parents trained.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.14, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Actions to obtain payment.** The state agency shall promulgate rules to determine the ability of responsible relatives to contribute partial or complete payment or repayment of medical assistance furnished to recipients for whom they are responsible. All medical assistance exclusions shall be allowed, and a resource limit of $10,000 for nonexcluded resources shall be implemented. Above these limits, a contribution of one-third of the excess resources shall be required. These rules shall not require payment or repayment when payment would cause undue hardship to the responsible relative or that relative's immediate family. These rules shall ~~be consistent with the requirements of section 252.27 for~~ not apply to parents of children whose eligibility for medical assistance was determined without deeming of the parents' resources and income under the TEFRA option or for the purposes of accessing home and community-based waiver services. The county agency shall give the responsible relative notice of the amount of the payment or repayment. If the state agency or county agency finds that notice of the payment obligation was given to the responsible relative, but that the relative failed or refused to pay, a cause of action exists against the responsible relative for that portion of medical assistance granted after notice was given to the responsible relative, which the relative was determined to be able to pay.

The action may be brought by the state agency or the county agency in the county where assistance was granted, for the assistance, together with the costs of disbursements incurred due to the action.

In addition to granting the county or state agency a money judgment, the court may, upon a motion or order to show cause, order continuing contributions by a responsible relative found able to repay the county or state agency. The order shall be effective only for the period of time during which the recipient receives medical assistance from the county or state agency.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256M.41, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Payments ~~based on performance.~~** ~~(a)~~ The commissioner shall make payments under this section to each county ~~board on a calendar year basis in an amount determined under paragraph (b)~~ on or before July 10 of each year.

~~(b) Calendar year allocations under subdivision 1 shall be paid to counties in the following manner:~~

~~(1) 80 percent of the allocation as determined in subdivision 1 must be paid to counties on or before July 10 of each year;~~

~~(2) ten percent of the allocation shall be withheld until the commissioner determines if the county has met the performance outcome threshold of 90 percent based on face-to-face contact with alleged child victims. In order to receive the performance allocation, the county child protection workers must have a timely face-to-face contact with at least 90 percent of all alleged child victims of screened-in maltreatment reports. The standard requires that each initial face-to-face contact occur consistent with timelines defined in section 626.556, subdivision 10, paragraph (i). The commissioner shall make threshold determinations in January of each year and payments to counties meeting the performance outcome threshold shall occur in February of each year. Any withheld funds from this appropriation for counties that do not meet this requirement shall be reallocated by the commissioner to those counties meeting the requirement; and~~

~~(3) ten percent of the allocation shall be withheld until the commissioner determines that the county has met the performance outcome threshold of 90 percent based on face-to-face visits by the case manager. In order to receive the performance allocation, the total number of visits made by caseworkers on a monthly basis to children in foster care and children receiving child protection services while residing in their home must be at least 90 percent of the total number of such visits that would occur if every child were visited once per month. The commissioner shall make such determinations in January of each year and payments to counties meeting the performance outcome threshold shall occur in February of each year. Any withheld funds from this appropriation for counties that do not meet this requirement shall be reallocated by the commissioner to those counties meeting the~~

~~requirement. For 2015, the commissioner shall only apply the standard for monthly foster care visits.~~

~~(c) The commissioner shall work with stakeholders and the Human Services Performance Council under section 402A.16 to develop recommendations for specific outcome measures that counties should meet in order to receive funds withheld under paragraph (b), and include in those recommendations a determination as to whether the performance measures under paragraph (b) should be modified or phased out. The commissioner shall report the recommendations to the legislative committees having jurisdiction over child protection issues by January 1, 2018.~~

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256M.41, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 4. **County performance on child protection measures.** The commissioner shall set child protection measures and standards. The commissioner shall require an underperforming county to demonstrate that the county designated sufficient funds and implemented a reasonable strategy to improve child protection performance, including the provision of a performance improvement plan and additional remedies identified by the commissioner. The commissioner may redirect up to 20 percent of a county's funds under this section toward the performance improvement plan. Sanctions under section 256M.20, subdivision 3, related to noncompliance with federal performance standards also apply.

Sec. 6. **[260C.216] FOSTER CARE RECRUITMENT GRANT PROGRAM.**

Subdivision 1. **Establishment and authority.** The commissioner of human services shall make grants to facilitate partnerships between counties and community groups or faith communities to develop and utilize innovative, nontraditional shared recruitment methods to increase and stabilize the number of available foster care families.

Subd. 2. **Eligibility.** An eligible applicant for a foster care recruitment grant under subdivision 1 is an organization or entity that:

(1) provides a written description identifying the county and community organizations or faith communities that will partner to develop innovative shared methods to recruit families through their community or faith organizations for foster care in the county;

(2) agrees to incorporate efforts by the partnership or a third party to offer additional support services including host families, family coaches, or resource referrals for families

in crisis such as homelessness, unemployment, hospitalization, substance abuse treatment, incarceration, or domestic violence, as an alternative to foster care; and

(3) describes how the proposed partnership model can be generalized to be used in other areas of the state.

Subd. 3. **Allowable grant activities.** Grant recipients may use grant funds to:

(1) develop materials that promote the partnership's innovative methods of nontraditional recruitment of foster care families through the partner community organizations or faith communities;

(2) develop an onboarding vehicle or training program for recruited foster care families that is accessible, relatable, and easy to understand, to be used by the partner community organizations or faith communities;

(3) establish sustainable communication between the partnership and the recruited families for ongoing support; or

(4) provide support services including host families, family coaches, or resource referrals for families in crisis such as homelessness, unemployment, hospitalization, substance abuse treatment, incarceration, or domestic violence, as an alternative to the foster care system.

Subd. 4. **Reporting** The commissioner shall report on the use of foster care recruitment grants to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over human services by December 31, 2020. The report shall include the name and location of grant recipients, the amount of each grant, the services provided, and the effects on the foster care system. The commissioner shall determine the form required for the report and may specify additional reporting requirements.

Subd. 5. **Funding.** The commissioner of human services may use available parent support outreach program funds for foster care recruitment grants under Minnesota Statutes, section 260C.216.

Sec. 7. **[260C.218] PARENT SUPPORT FOR BETTER OUTCOMES GRANTS.**

The commissioner of human services may use available parent support outreach program funds to provide mentoring, guidance, and support services to parents navigating the child welfare system in Minnesota, in order to promote the development of safe, stable, and healthy families, including parent mentoring, peer-to-peer support groups, housing support services, training, staffing, and administrative costs.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 518A.32, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Parent not considered voluntarily unemployed, underemployed, or employed on a less than full-time basis.** A parent is not considered voluntarily unemployed, underemployed, or employed on a less than full-time basis upon a showing by the parent that:

(1) the unemployment, underemployment, or employment on a less than full-time basis is temporary and will ultimately lead to an increase in income;

(2) the unemployment, underemployment, or employment on a less than full-time basis represents a bona fide career change that outweighs the adverse effect of that parent's diminished income on the child; or

(3) the unemployment, underemployment, or employment on a less than full-time basis is because a parent is physically or mentally incapacitated or due to incarceration~~, except where the reason for incarceration is the parent's nonpayment of support~~.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 518A.51, is amended to read:

518A.51 FEES FOR IV-D SERVICES.

(a) When a recipient of IV-D services is no longer receiving assistance under the state's title IV-A, IV-E foster care, or medical assistance programs, the public authority responsible for child support enforcement must notify the recipient, within five working days of the notification of ineligibility, that IV-D services will be continued unless the public authority is notified to the contrary by the recipient. The notice must include the implications of continuing to receive IV-D services, including the available services and fees, cost recovery fees, and distribution policies relating to fees.

(b) In the case of an individual who has never received assistance under a state program funded under title IV-A of the Social Security Act and for whom the public authority has collected at least ~~$500~~ $550 of support, the public authority must impose an annual federal collections fee of ~~$25~~ $35 for each case in which services are furnished. This fee must be retained by the public authority from support collected on behalf of the individual, but not from the first ~~$500~~ $550 collected.

(c) When the public authority provides full IV-D services to an obligee who has applied for those services, upon written notice to the obligee, the public authority must charge a cost recovery fee of two percent of the amount collected. This fee must be deducted from

the amount of the child support and maintenance collected and not assigned under section 256.741 before disbursement to the obligee. This fee does not apply to an obligee who:

(1) is currently receiving assistance under the state's title IV-A, IV-E foster care, or medical assistance programs; or

(2) has received assistance under the state's title IV-A or IV-E foster care programs, until the person has not received this assistance for 24 consecutive months.

(d) When the public authority provides full IV-D services to an obligor who has applied for such services, upon written notice to the obligor, the public authority must charge a cost recovery fee of two percent of the monthly court-ordered child support and maintenance obligation. The fee may be collected through income withholding, as well as by any other enforcement remedy available to the public authority responsible for child support enforcement.

(e) Fees assessed by state and federal tax agencies for collection of overdue support owed to or on behalf of a person not receiving public assistance must be imposed on the person for whom these services are provided. The public authority upon written notice to the obligee shall assess a fee of $25 to the person not receiving public assistance for each successful federal tax interception. The fee must be withheld prior to the release of the funds received from each interception and deposited in the general fund.

(f) Federal collections fees collected under paragraph (b) and cost recovery fees collected under paragraphs (c) and (d) retained by the commissioner of human services shall be considered child support program income according to Code of Federal Regulations, title 45, section 304.50, and shall be deposited in the special revenue fund account established under paragraph (h). The commissioner of human services must elect to recover costs based on either actual or standardized costs.

(g) The limitations of this section on the assessment of fees shall not apply to the extent inconsistent with the requirements of federal law for receiving funds for the programs under title IV-A and title IV-D of the Social Security Act, United States Code, title 42, sections 601 to 613 and United States Code, title 42, sections 651 to 662.

(h) The commissioner of human services is authorized to establish a special revenue fund account to receive the federal collections fees collected under paragraph (b) and cost recovery fees collected under paragraphs (c) and (d).

(i) The nonfederal share of the cost recovery fee revenue must be retained by the commissioner and distributed as follows:

(1) one-half of the revenue must be transferred to the child support system special revenue account to support the state's administration of the child support enforcement program and its federally mandated automated system;

(2) an additional portion of the revenue must be transferred to the child support system special revenue account for expenditures necessary to administer the fees; and

(3) the remaining portion of the revenue must be distributed to the counties to aid the counties in funding their child support enforcement programs.

(j) The nonfederal share of the federal collections fees must be distributed to the counties to aid them in funding their child support enforcement programs.

(k) The commissioner of human services shall distribute quarterly any of the funds dedicated to the counties under paragraphs (i) and (j) using the methodology specified in section 256.979, subdivision 11. The funds received by the counties must be reinvested in the child support enforcement program and the counties must not reduce the funding of their child support programs by the amount of the funding distributed.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective October 1, 2019.

Sec. 10. **DIRECTION TO COMMISSIONER OF HUMAN SERVICES; TEFRA OPTION IMPROVEMENT MEASURES.**

(a) The commissioner of human services shall, using existing appropriations, develop content to be included on the MNsure website explaining the TEFRA option under medical assistance for applicants who indicate during the application process that a child in the family has a disability.

(b) The commissioner shall develop a cover letter explaining the TEFRA option under medical assistance, as well as the application and renewal process, to be disseminated with the DHS-6696A form to applicants who may qualify for medical assistance under the TEFRA option. The commissioner shall provide the content and the form to the executive director of MNsure for inclusion on the MNsure website. The commissioner shall also develop and implement education and training for lead agency staff statewide to improve understanding of the medical assistance-TEFRA enrollment and renewal processes and procedures.

(c) The commissioner shall convene a stakeholder group that shall consider improvements to the TEFRA option enrollment and renewal processes, including but not limited to revisions to, or the development of, application and renewal paperwork specific to the TEFRA option; possible technology solutions; and county processes.

(d) The stakeholder group must include representatives from the Department of Human Services Health Care Division, MNsure, representatives from at least two counties in the metropolitan area and from at least one county in greater Minnesota, the Arc Minnesota, Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare, the Autism Society of Minnesota, Proof Alliance, the Minnesota Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities, and other interested stakeholders as identified by the commissioner of human services.

(e) The stakeholder group shall submit a report of the group's recommended improvements and any associated costs to the commissioner by December 31, 2020. The group shall also provide copies of the report to each stakeholder group member. The commissioner shall provide a copy of the report to the legislative committees with jurisdiction over medical assistance.

Sec. 11. **MINNESOTA PATHWAYS TO PROSPERITY AND WELL-BEING PILOT PROJECT.**

Subdivision 1. **Authorization.** (a) The commissioner of human services shall develop a pilot project that tests an alternative benefit delivery system for the distribution of public assistance benefits. The commissioner shall work with Dakota County and Olmsted County to develop the pilot project in accordance with this section. The commissioner shall apply for any federal waivers necessary to implement the pilot project.

(b) Prior to authorizing the pilot project, Dakota and Olmsted Counties must provide the following information to the commissioner:

(1) identification of any federal waivers required to implement the pilot project and a timeline for obtaining the waivers;

(2) identification of data sharing requirements between the counties and the commissioner to administer the pilot project and evaluate the outcome measures under subdivision 4, including the technology systems that will be developed to administer the pilot project and a description of the elements of the technology systems that will ensure the privacy of the data of the participants;

(3) documentation that demonstrates receipt of private donations or grants totaling at least $2,800,000 per year for three years to support implementation of the pilot project;

(4) a complete plan for implementing the pilot project, including an assurance that each participant's unified benefit amount is proportionate to and in no event exceeds the total amount that the participant would have received by participating in the underlying programs for which they are eligible, information about the administration of the unified benefit

amount to ensure that the benefit is used by participants for the services provided through the underlying programs included in the unified benefit, an explanation of which funds will be issued directly to providers and which funds will be available on an EBT card, and information about consequences and remedies for improper use of the unified benefit;

(5) an evaluation plan developed in consultation with the commissioner of management and budget to ensure that the pilot project includes an evaluation using an experimental or quasi-experimental design and a formal evaluation of the results of the pilot project; and

(6) documentation that demonstrates the receipt of a formal commitment of grants or contracts with the federal government to complete a comprehensive evaluation of the pilot project.

(c) The commissioner may authorize the pilot project only after reviewing the information submitted under paragraph (b) and issuing a formal written approval of the proposed project.

Subd. 2. **Pilot project goals.** The goals of the pilot project are to:

(1) reduce the historical separation among the state programs and systems affecting families who may receive public assistance;

(2) eliminate, where possible, regulatory or program restrictions to allow a comprehensive approach to meeting the needs of the families in the pilot project; and

(3) focus on prevention-oriented supports and interventions.

Subd. 3. **Pilot project participants.** The pilot project developed by the commissioner must include requirements that participants:

(1) be 30 years of age or younger with a minimum of one child and income below 200 percent of federal poverty guidelines;

(2) voluntarily agree to participate in the pilot project;

(3) be informed of the right to voluntarily discontinue participation in the pilot project;

(4) be eligible for or receiving assistance under the Minnesota family investment program under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 256J, and at least one of the following programs: (i) the child care assistance program under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 119B; (ii) the diversionary work program under Minnesota Statutes, section 256J.95; (iii) the supplemental nutrition assistance program under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 256D; or (iv) state or federal housing support;

(5) provide informed, written consent that the participant waives eligibility for the programs included in the unified benefit set for the duration of their participation in the pilot project;

(6) be enrolled in an education program that is focused on obtaining a career that will result in a livable wage;

(7) receive as the unified benefit only an amount that is proportionate to and does not exceed the total value of the benefits the participant would be eligible to receive under the underlying programs; and

(8) shall not have the unified benefit amount counted as income for child support or tax purposes.

Subd. 4. **Outcomes.** (a) The outcome measures for the pilot project must be developed in consultation with the commissioner of management and budget, and must include:

(1) improvement in the affordability, safety, and permanence of suitable housing;

(2) improvement in family functioning and stability, including the areas of behavioral health, incarceration, involvement with the child welfare system;

(3) improvement in education readiness and outcomes for parents and children from early childhood through high school, including reduction in absenteeism, preschool readiness scores, third grade reading competency, graduation, grade point average, and standardized test improvement;

(4) improvement in attachment to the workforce of one or both parents, including enhanced job stability; wage gains; career advancement; and progress in career preparation; and

(5) improvement in health care access and health outcomes for parents and children and other outcomes determined in consultation with the commissioner of human services and the commissioner of management and budget.

(b) Dakota and Olmsted Counties shall report on the progress and outcomes of the pilot project to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over human services by January 15 of each year that the pilot project operates, beginning January 15, 2021.

Sec. 12. **REVISOR INSTRUCTION.**

The revisor of statutes, in consultation with the Department of Human Services, House Research Department, and Senate Counsel, Research and Fiscal Analysis shall change the

terms "food support" and "food stamps" to "Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program" or "SNAP" in Minnesota Statutes when appropriate. The revisor may make technical and other necessary changes to sentence structure to preserve the meaning of the text.

Sec. 13. **REVISOR INSTRUCTION.**

The revisor of statutes shall remove the terms "child care assistance program," "basic sliding fee child care," and "MFIP child care," or similar terms wherever the terms appear in Minnesota Statutes. The revisor shall also make technical and other necessary changes to sentence structure to preserve the meaning of the text.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2020.

Sec. 14. **REPEALER.**

(a) Minnesota Statutes 2018, sections 119B.011, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 10a, 11, 12, 13, 13a, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 19a, 19b, 20, 20a, 21, and 22; 119B.02; 119B.025, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, and 4; 119B.03, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 6a, 6b, 8, 9, and 10; 119B.035; 119B.04; 119B.05, subdivisions 1, 4, and 5; 119B.06, subdivisions 1, 2, and 3; 119B.08, subdivisions 1, 2, and 3; 119B.09, subdivisions 1, 3, 4, 4a, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 9a, 10, 11, 12, and 13; 119B.095; 119B.097; 119B.10, subdivisions 1, 2, and 3; 119B.105; 119B.11, subdivisions 1, 2a, 3, and 4; 119B.12, subdivisions 1 and 2; 119B.125; 119B.13, subdivisions 1, 1a, 3, 3a, 3b, 3c, 4, 5, 6, and 7; 119B.14; 119B.15; and 119B.16, are repealed effective July 1, 2020.

(b) Minnesota Rules, parts 3400.0010; 3400.0020, subparts 1, 4, 5, 8, 9a, 10a, 12, 17a, 18, 18a, 20, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29a, 31b, 32b, 33, 34a, 35, 37, 38, 38a, 38b, 39, 40, 40a, and 44; 3400.0030; 3400.0035; 3400.0040, subparts 1, 3, 4, 5, 5a, 6a, 6b, 6c, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 15a, 17, and 18; 3400.0060, subparts 2, 4, 5, 6, 6a, 7, 8, 9, and 10; 3400.0080, subparts 1, 1a, 1b, and 8; 3400.0090, subparts 1, 2, 3, and 4; 3400.0100, subparts 2a, 2b, 2c, and 5; 3400.0110, subparts 1, 1a, 2, 2a, 3, 4a, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11; 3400.0120, subparts 1, 1a, 2, 2a, 3, and 5; 3400.0130, subparts 1, 1a, 2, 3, 3a, 3b, 5, 5a, and 7; 3400.0140, subparts 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 9a, 10, and 14; 3400.0150; 3400.0170, subparts 1, 3, 4, 6a, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11; 3400.0180; 3400.0183, subparts 1, 2, and 5; 3400.0185; 3400.0187, subparts 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6; 3400.0200; 3400.0220; 3400.0230, subpart 3; and 3400.0235, subparts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, are repealed are effective July 1, 2020.

(c) Laws 2017, First Special Session chapter 6, article 7, section 34, is repealed effective July 1, 2019.

ARTICLE 3
CHEMICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 13.851, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 11. **Mental health data sharing.** Section 641.15, subdivision 3a, governs the sharing of data on prisoners who may have a mental illness or need services with county social service agencies or welfare system personnel.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 245.4889, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Establishment and authority.** (a) The commissioner is authorized to make grants from available appropriations to assist:

(1) counties;

(2) Indian tribes;

(3) children's collaboratives under section 124D.23 or 245.493; or

(4) mental health service providers.

(b) The following services are eligible for grants under this section:

(1) services to children with emotional disturbances as defined in section 245.4871, subdivision 15, and their families;

(2) transition services under section 245.4875, subdivision 8, for young adults under age 21 and their families;

(3) respite care services for children with severe emotional disturbances who are at risk of out-of-home placement, whether or not the child is receiving case management services;

(4) children's mental health crisis services;

(5) mental health services for people from cultural and ethnic minorities;

(6) children's mental health screening and follow-up diagnostic assessment and treatment;

(7) services to promote and develop the capacity of providers to use evidence-based practices in providing children's mental health services;

(8) school-linked mental health services, including transportation for children receiving school-linked mental health services when school is not in session;

(9) building evidence-based mental health intervention capacity for children birth to age five;

(10) suicide prevention and counseling services that use text messaging statewide;

(11) mental health first aid training;

(12) training for parents, collaborative partners, and mental health providers on the impact of adverse childhood experiences and trauma and development of an interactive website to share information and strategies to promote resilience and prevent trauma;

(13) transition age services to develop or expand mental health treatment and supports for adolescents and young adults 26 years of age or younger;

(14) early childhood mental health consultation;

(15) evidence-based interventions for youth at risk of developing or experiencing a first episode of psychosis, and a public awareness campaign on the signs and symptoms of psychosis;

(16) psychiatric consultation for primary care practitioners; ~~and~~

(17) providers to begin operations and meet program requirements when establishing a new children's mental health program. These may be start-up grants~~.~~; and

(18) promoting and developing a provider's capacity to deliver multigenerational mental health treatment and services.

(c) Services under paragraph (b) must be designed to help each child to function and remain with the child's family in the community and delivered consistent with the child's treatment plan. Transition services to eligible young adults under this paragraph must be designed to foster independent living in the community.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 254A.03, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Rules for substance use disorder care.** (a) The commissioner of human services shall establish by rule criteria to be used in determining the appropriate level of chemical dependency care for each recipient of public assistance seeking treatment for substance misuse or substance use disorder. Upon federal approval of a comprehensive assessment as a Medicaid benefit, or on July 1, 2018, whichever is later, and notwithstanding the criteria in Minnesota Rules, parts 9530.6600 to 9530.6655, an eligible vendor of comprehensive assessments under section 254B.05 may determine and approve the appropriate level of substance use disorder treatment for a recipient of public assistance. The process for determining an individual's financial eligibility for the consolidated chemical

dependency treatment fund or determining an individual's enrollment in or eligibility for a publicly subsidized health plan is not affected by the individual's choice to access a comprehensive assessment for placement.

(b) The commissioner shall develop and implement a utilization review process for publicly funded treatment placements to monitor and review the clinical appropriateness and timeliness of all publicly funded placements in treatment.

(c) If a screen result is positive for alcohol or substance misuse, a brief screening for alcohol or substance use disorder that is provided to a recipient of public assistance within a primary care clinic, hospital, or other medical setting or school setting establishes medical necessity and approval for an initial set of substance use disorder services identified in section 254B.05, subdivision 5. The initial set of services approved for a recipient whose screen result is positive may include four hours of individual or group substance use disorder treatment, two hours of substance use disorder treatment coordination, or two hours of substance use disorder peer support services provided by a qualified individual according to chapter 245G. A recipient must obtain an assessment pursuant to paragraph (a) to be approved for additional treatment services.

EFFECTIVE DATE. Contingent upon federal approval, this section is effective July 1, 2019. The commissioner of human services shall notify the revisor of statutes when federal approval is obtained or denied.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 254B.02, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Chemical dependency treatment allocation.** The chemical dependency treatment appropriation shall be placed in a special revenue account. ~~The commissioner shall annually transfer funds from the chemical dependency fund to pay for operation of the drug and alcohol abuse normative evaluation system and to pay for all costs incurred by adding two positions for licensing of chemical dependency treatment and rehabilitation programs located in hospitals for which funds are not otherwise appropriated.~~ The ~~remainder of the~~ money in the special revenue account must be used according to the requirements in this chapter.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2019.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 254B.03, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Chemical dependency fund payment.** (a) Payment from the chemical dependency fund is limited to payments for services other than detoxification licensed under

Minnesota Rules, parts 9530.6510 to 9530.6590, that, if located outside of federally recognized tribal lands, would be required to be licensed by the commissioner as a chemical dependency treatment or rehabilitation program under sections 245A.01 to 245A.16, and services other than detoxification provided in another state that would be required to be licensed as a chemical dependency program if the program were in the state. Out of state vendors must also provide the commissioner with assurances that the program complies substantially with state licensing requirements and possesses all licenses and certifications required by the host state to provide chemical dependency treatment. Vendors receiving payments from the chemical dependency fund must not require co-payment from a recipient of benefits for services provided under this subdivision. The vendor is prohibited from using the client's public benefits to offset the cost of services paid under this section. The vendor shall not require the client to use public benefits for room or board costs. This includes but is not limited to cash assistance benefits under chapters 119B, 256D, and 256J, or SNAP benefits. Retention of SNAP benefits is a right of a client receiving services through the consolidated chemical dependency treatment fund or through state contracted managed care entities. Payment from the chemical dependency fund shall be made for necessary room and board costs provided by vendors ~~certified according to~~ meeting the criteria under section 254B.05, subdivision 1a, or in a community hospital licensed by the commissioner of health according to sections 144.50 to 144.56 to a client who is:

(1) determined to meet the criteria for placement in a residential chemical dependency treatment program according to rules adopted under section 254A.03, subdivision 3; and

(2) concurrently receiving a chemical dependency treatment service in a program licensed by the commissioner and reimbursed by the chemical dependency fund.

(b) A county may, from its own resources, provide chemical dependency services for which state payments are not made. A county may elect to use the same invoice procedures and obtain the same state payment services as are used for chemical dependency services for which state payments are made under this section if county payments are made to the state in advance of state payments to vendors. When a county uses the state system for payment, the commissioner shall make monthly billings to the county using the most recent available information to determine the anticipated services for which payments will be made in the coming month. Adjustment of any overestimate or underestimate based on actual expenditures shall be made by the state agency by adjusting the estimate for any succeeding month.

(c) The commissioner shall coordinate chemical dependency services and determine whether there is a need for any proposed expansion of chemical dependency treatment

services. ~~The commissioner shall deny vendor certification to any provider that has not received prior approval from the commissioner for the creation of new programs or the expansion of existing program capacity. The commissioner shall consider the provider's capacity to obtain clients from outside the state based on plans, agreements, and previous utilization history, when determining the need for new treatment services~~ The commissioner may deny vendor certification to a provider if the commissioner determines that the services currently available in the local area are sufficient to meet local need and that the addition of new services would be detrimental to individuals seeking these services.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2019.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 254B.03, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Division of costs.** (a) Except for services provided by a county under section 254B.09, subdivision 1, or services provided under section 256B.69, the county shall, out of local money, pay the state for 22.95 percent of the cost of chemical dependency services, ~~including those~~ except that the county shall pay the state for ten percent of the nonfederal share of the cost of chemical dependency services provided to persons ~~eligible for~~ enrolled in medical assistance under chapter 256B, and ten percent of the cost of room and board services under section 254B.05, subdivision 5, paragraph (b), clause (12). Counties may use the indigent hospitalization levy for treatment and hospital payments made under this section.

(b) 22.95 percent of any state collections from private or third-party pay, less 15 percent for the cost of payment and collections, must be distributed to the county that paid for a portion of the treatment under this section.

~~(c) For fiscal year 2017 only, the 22.95 percentages under paragraphs (a) and (b) are equal to 20.2 percent.~~

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2019.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 254B.04, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Eligibility.** (a) Persons eligible for benefits under Code of Federal Regulations, title 25, part 20, ~~and persons eligible for medical assistance benefits under sections 256B.055, 256B.056, and 256B.057, subdivisions 1, 5, and 6, or~~ who meet the income standards of section 256B.056, subdivision 4, and are not enrolled in medical assistance, are entitled to chemical dependency fund services. State money appropriated for this paragraph must be placed in a separate account established for this purpose.

(b) Persons with dependent children who are determined to be in need of chemical dependency treatment pursuant to an assessment under section 626.556, subdivision 10, or a case plan under section 260C.201, subdivision 6, or 260C.212, shall be assisted by the local agency to access needed treatment services. Treatment services must be appropriate for the individual or family, which may include long-term care treatment or treatment in a facility that allows the dependent children to stay in the treatment facility. The county shall pay for out-of-home placement costs, if applicable.

(c) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), persons enrolled in medical assistance are eligible for room and board services under section 254B.05, subdivision 5, paragraph (b), clause (12).

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective September 1, 2019.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 254B.05, subdivision 1a, is amended to read:

Subd. 1a. **Room and board provider requirements.** (a) Effective January 1, 2000, vendors of room and board are eligible for chemical dependency fund payment if the vendor:

(1) has rules prohibiting residents bringing chemicals into the facility or using chemicals while residing in the facility and provide consequences for infractions of those rules;

(2) is determined to meet applicable health and safety requirements;

(3) is not a jail or prison;

(4) is not concurrently receiving funds under chapter 256I for the recipient;

(5) admits individuals who are 18 years of age or older;

(6) is registered as a board and lodging or lodging establishment according to section 157.17;

(7) has awake staff on site 24 hours per day;

(8) has staff who are at least 18 years of age and meet the requirements of section 245G.11, subdivision 1, paragraph (b);

(9) has emergency behavioral procedures that meet the requirements of section 245G.16;

(10) meets the requirements of section 245G.08, subdivision 5, if administering medications to clients;

(11) meets the abuse prevention requirements of section 245A.65, including a policy on fraternization and the mandatory reporting requirements of section 626.557;

(12) documents coordination with the treatment provider to ensure compliance with section 254B.03, subdivision 2;

(13) protects client funds and ensures freedom from exploitation by meeting the provisions of section 245A.04, subdivision 13;

(14) has a grievance procedure that meets the requirements of section 245G.15, subdivision 2; and

(15) has sleeping and bathroom facilities for men and women separated by a door that is locked, has an alarm, or is supervised by awake staff.

(b) Programs licensed according to Minnesota Rules, chapter 2960, are exempt from paragraph (a), clauses (5) to (15).

(c) Licensed programs providing intensive residential treatment services or residential crisis stabilization services pursuant to section 256B.0622 or 256B.0624 are eligible vendors of room and board and are exempt from paragraph (a), clauses (6) to (15).

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective September 1, 2019.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 254B.06, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **State collections.** The commissioner is responsible for all collections from persons determined to be partially responsible for the cost of care of an eligible person receiving services under Laws 1986, chapter 394, sections 8 to 20. The commissioner may initiate, or request the attorney general to initiate, necessary civil action to recover the unpaid cost of care. The commissioner may collect all third-party payments for chemical dependency services provided under Laws 1986, chapter 394, sections 8 to 20, including private insurance and federal Medicaid and Medicare financial participation. ~~The commissioner shall deposit in a dedicated account a percentage of collections to pay for the cost of operating the chemical dependency consolidated treatment fund invoice processing and vendor payment system, billing, and collections.~~ The remaining receipts must be deposited in the chemical dependency fund.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2019.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 254B.06, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Allocation of collections.** ~~(a) The commissioner shall allocate all federal financial participation collections to a special revenue account.~~ The commissioner shall

allocate 77.05 percent of patient payments and third-party payments to the special revenue account and 22.95 percent to the county financially responsible for the patient.

~~(b) For fiscal year 2017 only, the commissioner's allocation to the special revenue account shall be increased from 77.05 percent to 79.8 percent and the county financial responsibility shall be reduced from 22.95 percent to 20.2 percent.~~

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2019.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0625, subdivision 24, is amended to read:

Subd. 24. **Other medical or remedial care.** Medical assistance covers any other medical or remedial care licensed and recognized under state law unless otherwise prohibited by law~~, except licensed chemical dependency treatment programs or primary treatment or extended care treatment units in hospitals that are covered under chapter 254B. The commissioner shall include chemical dependency services in the state medical assistance plan for federal reporting purposes, but payment must be made under chapter 254B~~. The commissioner shall publish in the State Register a list of elective surgeries that require a second medical opinion before medical assistance reimbursement, and the criteria and standards for deciding whether an elective surgery should require a second medical opinion. The list and criteria and standards are not subject to the requirements of sections 14.01 to 14.69.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2019.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0625, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 24a. **Substance use disorder services.** Medical assistance covers substance use disorder treatment services according to section 254B.05, subdivision 5, except for room and board.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2019.

Sec. 13. **[256B.0759] SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER DEMONSTRATION PROJECT.**

Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** The commissioner shall develop and implement a medical assistance demonstration project to test reforms of Minnesota's substance use disorder treatment system to ensure individuals with substance use disorders have access to a full continuum of high quality care.

Subd. 2. **Provider participation.** Substance use disorder treatment providers may elect to participate in the demonstration project and fulfill the requirements under subdivision 3. To participate, a provider must notify the commissioner of the provider's intent to participate in a format required by the commissioner and enroll as a demonstration project provider.

Subd. 3. **Provider standards.** (a) The commissioner shall establish requirements for participating providers that are consistent with the federal requirements of the demonstration project.

(b) Participating residential providers must obtain applicable licensure under chapters 245F, 245G, or other applicable standards for the services provided and must:

(1) deliver services in accordance with American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) standards;

(2) maintain formal patient referral arrangements with providers delivering step-up or step-down levels of care in accordance with ASAM standards; and

(3) provide or arrange for medication-assisted treatment services if requested by a client for whom an effective medication exists.

(c) Participating outpatient providers must be licensed and must:

(1) deliver services in accordance with ASAM standards; and

(2) maintain formal patient referral arrangements with providers delivering step-up or step-down levels of care in accordance with ASAM standards.

(d) If the provider standards under chapter 245G or other applicable standards conflict or are duplicative, the commissioner may grant variances to the standards if the variances do not conflict with federal requirements. The commissioner shall publish service components, service standards, and staffing requirements for participating providers that are consistent with ASAM standards and federal requirements.

Subd. 4. **Provider payment rates.** (a) Payment rates for participating providers must be increased for services provided to medical assistance enrollees.

(b) For substance use disorder services under section 254B.05, subdivision 5, paragraph (b), clause (8), payment rates must be increased by 15 percent over the rates in effect on January 1, 2020.

(c) For substance use disorder services under section 254B.05, subdivision 5, paragraph (b), clauses (1), (6), (7), and (10), payment rates must be increased by ten percent over the rates in effect on January 1, 2021.

Subd. 5. **Federal approval.** The commissioner shall seek federal approval to implement the demonstration project under this section and to receive federal financial participation.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256I.04, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Individual eligibility requirements.** An individual is eligible for and entitled to a housing support payment to be made on the individual's behalf if the agency has approved the setting where the individual will receive housing support and the individual meets the requirements in paragraph (a), (b), or (c).

(a) The individual is aged, blind, or is over 18 years of age with a disability as determined under the criteria used by the title II program of the Social Security Act, and meets the resource restrictions and standards of section 256P.02, and the individual's countable income after deducting the (1) exclusions and disregards of the SSI program, (2) the medical assistance personal needs allowance under section 256B.35, and (3) an amount equal to the income actually made available to a community spouse by an elderly waiver participant under the provisions of sections 256B.0575, paragraph (a), clause (4), and 256B.058, subdivision 2, is less than the monthly rate specified in the agency's agreement with the provider of housing support in which the individual resides.

(b) The individual meets a category of eligibility under section 256D.05, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clauses (1), (3), (4) to (8), and (13), and paragraph (b), if applicable, and the individual's resources are less than the standards specified by section 256P.02, and the individual's countable income as determined under section 256P.06, less the medical assistance personal needs allowance under section 256B.35 is less than the monthly rate specified in the agency's agreement with the provider of housing support in which the individual resides.

(c) The individual ~~receives licensed residential crisis stabilization services under section 256B.0624, subdivision 7, and is receiving medical assistance. The individual may receive concurrent housing support payments if receiving licensed residential crisis stabilization services under section 256B.0624, subdivision 7.~~ lacks a fixed, adequate, nighttime residence upon discharge from a residential behavioral health treatment program, as determined by treatment staff from the residential behavioral health treatment program. An individual is eligible under this paragraph for up to three months, including a full or partial month from the individual's move-in date at a setting approved for housing support following discharge from treatment, plus two full months.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective September 1, 2019.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256I.04, subdivision 2f, is amended to read:

Subd. 2f. **Required services.** (a) In licensed and registered settings under subdivision 2a, providers shall ensure that participants have at a minimum:

(1) food preparation and service for three nutritional meals a day on site;

(2) a bed, clothing storage, linen, bedding, laundering, and laundry supplies or service;

(3) housekeeping, including cleaning and lavatory supplies or service; and

(4) maintenance and operation of the building and grounds, including heat, water, garbage removal, electricity, telephone for the site, cooling, supplies, and parts and tools to repair and maintain equipment and facilities.

(b) Providers serving participants described in subdivision 1, paragraph (c), shall assist participants in applying for continuing housing support payments before the end of the eligibility period.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective September 1, 2019.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256I.06, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **Amount of housing support payment.** (a) The amount of a room and board payment to be made on behalf of an eligible individual is determined by subtracting the individual's countable income under section 256I.04, subdivision 1, for a whole calendar month from the room and board rate for that same month. The housing support payment is determined by multiplying the housing support rate times the period of time the individual was a resident or temporarily absent under section 256I.05, subdivision 1c, paragraph (d).

(b) For an individual with earned income under paragraph (a), prospective budgeting must be used to determine the amount of the individual's payment for the following six-month period. An increase in income shall not affect an individual's eligibility or payment amount until the month following the reporting month. A decrease in income shall be effective the first day of the month after the month in which the decrease is reported.

(c) For an individual who receives ~~licensed residential crisis stabilization services under section 256B.0624, subdivision 7,~~ housing support payments under section 256I.04, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), the ~~amount of~~ housing support payment amount is determined by multiplying the housing support rate times the period of time the individual was a resident.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective September 1, 2019.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 641.15, subdivision 3a, is amended to read:

Subd. 3a. **Intake procedure; approved mental health screening; data sharing.** As part of its intake procedure for new prisoners, the sheriff or local corrections shall use a mental health screening tool approved by the commissioner of corrections, in consultation with the commissioner of human services and local corrections staff, to identify persons who may have a mental illness. Notwithstanding section 13.85, the sheriff or local corrections may share the names of persons who have screened positive for or may have a mental illness with the local county social services agency. The sheriff or local corrections may refer a person to county personnel of the welfare system, as defined in section 13.46, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), in order to arrange for services upon discharge and may share private data on the individual as necessary to:

(1) provide assistance in filling out an application for medical assistance or MinnesotaCare;

(2) make a referral for case management as provided under section 245.467, subdivision 4;

(3) provide assistance in obtaining a state photo identification;

(4) secure a timely appointment with a psychiatrist or other appropriate community mental health provider;

(5) provide prescriptions for a 30-day supply of all necessary medications; or

(6) provide for behavioral health service coordination.

Sec. 18. **REPEALER.**

(a) Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 254B.03, subdivision 4a, is repealed.

(b) Minnesota Rules, parts 9530.6800; and 9530.6810, are repealed.

ARTICLE 4
CONTINUING CARE FOR OLDER ADULTS

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 144A.073, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 16. **Moratorium exception funding.** In fiscal year 2020, the commissioner may approve moratorium exception projects under this section for which the full annualized state share of medical assistance costs does not exceed $2,000,000 plus any carryover of previous appropriations for this purpose.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256R.25, is amended to read:

256R.25 EXTERNAL FIXED COSTS PAYMENT RATE.

(a) The payment rate for external fixed costs is the sum of the amounts in paragraphs (b) to ~~(n)~~ (o).

(b) For a facility licensed as a nursing home, the portion related to the provider surcharge under section 256.9657 is equal to $8.86 per resident day. For a facility licensed as both a nursing home and a boarding care home, the portion related to the provider surcharge under section 256.9657 is equal to $8.86 per resident day multiplied by the result of its number of nursing home beds divided by its total number of licensed beds.

(c) The portion related to the licensure fee under section 144.122, paragraph (d), is the amount of the fee divided by the sum of the facility's resident days.

(d) The portion related to development and education of resident and family advisory councils under section 144A.33 is $5 per resident day divided by 365.

(e) The portion related to scholarships is determined under section 256R.37.

(f) The portion related to planned closure rate adjustments is as determined under section 256R.40, subdivision 5, and Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 256B.436.

(g) The portion related to consolidation rate adjustments shall be as determined under section 144A.071, subdivisions 4c, paragraph (a), clauses (5) and (6), and 4d.

(h) The portion related to single-bed room incentives is as determined under section 256R.41.

(i) The portions related to real estate taxes, special assessments, and payments made in lieu of real estate taxes directly identified or allocated to the nursing facility are the actual amounts divided by the sum of the facility's resident days. Allowable costs under this paragraph for payments made by a nonprofit nursing facility that are in lieu of real estate taxes shall not exceed the amount which the nursing facility would have paid to a city or township and county for fire, police, sanitation services, and road maintenance costs had real estate taxes been levied on that property for those purposes.

(j) The portion related to employer health insurance costs is the allowable costs divided by the sum of the facility's resident days.

(k) The portion related to the Public Employees Retirement Association is actual costs divided by the sum of the facility's resident days.

(l) The portion related to quality improvement incentive payment rate adjustments is the amount determined under section 256R.39.

(m) The portion related to performance-based incentive payments is the amount determined under section 256R.38.

(n) The portion related to special dietary needs is the amount determined under section 256R.51.

(o) The portion related to the rate adjustments for border city facilities is the amount determined under section 256R.481.

Sec. 3. **[256R.481] RATE ADJUSTMENTS FOR BORDER CITY FACILITIES.**

(a)The commissioner shall allow each nonprofit nursing facility located within the boundaries of the city of Breckenridge or Moorhead prior to January 1, 2015, to apply once annually for a rate add-on to the facility's external fixed costs payment rate.

(b) A facility seeking an add-on to its external fixed costs payment rate under this section must apply annually to the commissioner to receive the add-on. A facility must submit the application within 60 calendar days of the effective date of any add-on under this section. The commissioner may waive the deadlines required by this paragraph under extraordinary circumstances.

(c) The commissioner shall provide the add-on to each eligible facility that applies by the application deadline.

(d) The add-on to the external fixed costs payment rate is the difference on January 1 of the median total payment rate for case mix classification PA1 of the nonprofit facilities located in an adjacent city in another state and in cities contiguous to the adjacent city minus the eligible nursing facility's total payment rate for case mix classification PA1 as determined under section 256R.22, subdivision 4.

EFFECTIVE DATE. The add-on to the external fixed costs payment rate described in Minnesota Statutes, section 256R.481, is available for the rate years beginning on and after January 1, 2021.

Sec. 4. **REPEALER.**

Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256R.53, subdivision 2, is repealed effective January 1, 2021.

ARTICLE 5
DISABILITY SERVICES

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 245A.03, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Licensing moratorium.** (a) The commissioner shall not issue an initial license for child foster care licensed under Minnesota Rules, parts 2960.3000 to 2960.3340, or adult foster care licensed under Minnesota Rules, parts 9555.5105 to 9555.6265, under this chapter for a physical location that will not be the primary residence of the license holder for the entire period of licensure. If a license is issued during this moratorium, and the license holder changes the license holder's primary residence away from the physical location of the foster care license, the commissioner shall revoke the license according to section 245A.07. The commissioner shall not issue an initial license for a community residential setting licensed under chapter 245D. When approving an exception under this paragraph, the commissioner shall consider the resource need determination process in paragraph (h), the availability of foster care licensed beds in the geographic area in which the licensee seeks to operate, the results of a person's choices during their annual assessment and service plan review, and the recommendation of the local county board. The determination by the commissioner is final and not subject to appeal. Exceptions to the moratorium include:

(1) foster care settings that are required to be registered under chapter 144D;

(2) foster care licenses replacing foster care licenses in existence on May 15, 2009, or community residential setting licenses replacing adult foster care licenses in existence on December 31, 2013, and determined to be needed by the commissioner under paragraph (b);

(3) new foster care licenses or community residential setting licenses determined to be needed by the commissioner under paragraph (b) for the closure of a nursing facility, ICF/DD, or regional treatment center; restructuring of state-operated services that limits the capacity of state-operated facilities; or allowing movement to the community for people who no longer require the level of care provided in state-operated facilities as provided under section 256B.092, subdivision 13, or 256B.49, subdivision 24;

(4) new foster care licenses or community residential setting licenses determined to be needed by the commissioner under paragraph (b) for persons requiring hospital level care;

(5) new foster care licenses or community residential setting licenses determined to be needed by the commissioner for the transition of people from personal care assistance to the home and community-based services;

(6) new foster care licenses or community residential setting licenses determined to be needed by the commissioner for the transition of people from the residential care waiver services to foster care services. This exception applies only when:

(i) the person's case manager provided the person with information about the choice of service, service provider, and location of service to help the person make an informed choice; and

(ii) the person's foster care services are less than or equal to the cost of the person's services delivered in the residential care waiver service setting as determined by the lead agency; or

(7) new foster care licenses or community residential setting licenses for people receiving services under chapter 245D and residing in an unlicensed setting before May 1, 2017, and for which a license is required. This exception does not apply to people living in their own home. For purposes of this clause, there is a presumption that a foster care or community residential setting license is required for services provided to three or more people in a dwelling unit when the setting is controlled by the provider. A license holder subject to this exception may rebut the presumption that a license is required by seeking a reconsideration of the commissioner's determination. The commissioner's disposition of a request for reconsideration is final and not subject to appeal under chapter 14. The exception is available until June 30, ~~2018~~ 2019. This exception is available when:

(i) the person's case manager provided the person with information about the choice of service, service provider, and location of service, including in the person's home, to help the person make an informed choice; and

(ii) the person's services provided in the licensed foster care or community residential setting are less than or equal to the cost of the person's services delivered in the unlicensed setting as determined by the lead agency; or

(8) a vacancy in a setting granted an exception under clause (7), created between January 1, 2017, and the date of the exception request, by the departure of a person receiving services under chapter 245D and residing in the unlicensed setting between January 1, 2017, and May 1, 2017. This exception is available when the lead agency provides documentation to the commissioner on the eligibility criteria being met. This exception is available until June 30, 2019.

(b) The commissioner shall determine the need for newly licensed foster care homes or community residential settings as defined under this subdivision. As part of the determination, the commissioner shall consider the availability of foster care capacity in the area in which

the licensee seeks to operate, and the recommendation of the local county board. The determination by the commissioner must be final. A determination of need is not required for a change in ownership at the same address.

(c) When an adult resident ~~served by the program moves out of a~~ for any reason permanently vacates a bed in an adult foster care home that is not the primary residence of the license holder ~~according to section 256B.49, subdivision 15, paragraph (f)~~, or ~~the~~ a bed in an adult community residential setting, the county shall immediately inform the ~~Department of Human Services Licensing Division~~ commissioner. Within six months of the second bed being permanently vacated, the ~~department may~~ commissioner shall decrease the statewide licensed capacity for adult foster care settings by one bed for every two beds vacated.

(d) Residential settings that would otherwise be subject to the decreased license capacity established in paragraph (c) shall be exempt if the license holder's beds are occupied by residents whose primary diagnosis is mental illness and the license holder is certified under the requirements in subdivision 6a or section 245D.33.

(e) A resource need determination process, managed at the state level, using the available reports required by section 144A.351, and other data and information shall be used to determine where the reduced capacity determined under section 256B.493 will be implemented. The commissioner shall consult with the stakeholders described in section 144A.351, and employ a variety of methods to improve the state's capacity to meet the informed decisions of those people who want to move out of corporate foster care or community residential settings, long-term service needs within budgetary limits, including seeking proposals from service providers or lead agencies to change service type, capacity, or location to improve services, increase the independence of residents, and better meet needs identified by the long-term services and supports reports and statewide data and information.

(f) At the time of application and reapplication for licensure, the applicant and the license holder that are subject to the moratorium or an exclusion established in paragraph (a) are required to inform the commissioner whether the physical location where the foster care will be provided is or will be the primary residence of the license holder for the entire period of licensure. If the primary residence of the applicant or license holder changes, the applicant or license holder must notify the commissioner immediately. The commissioner shall print on the foster care license certificate whether or not the physical location is the primary residence of the license holder.

(g) License holders of foster care homes identified under paragraph (f) that are not the primary residence of the license holder and that also provide services in the foster care home that are covered by a federally approved home and community-based services waiver, as authorized under section 256B.0915, 256B.092, or 256B.49, must inform the human services licensing division that the license holder provides or intends to provide these waiver-funded services.

(h) The commissioner may adjust capacity to address needs identified in section 144A.351. Under this authority, the commissioner may approve new licensed settings or delicense existing settings. Delicensing of settings will be accomplished through a process identified in section 256B.493. Annually, by August 1, the commissioner shall provide information and data on capacity of licensed long-term services and supports, actions taken under the subdivision to manage statewide long-term services and supports resources, and any recommendations for change to the legislative committees with jurisdiction over the health and human services budget.

(i) The commissioner must notify a license holder when its corporate foster care or community residential setting licensed beds are reduced under this section. The notice of reduction of licensed beds must be in writing and delivered to the license holder by certified mail or personal service. The notice must state why the licensed beds are reduced and must inform the license holder of its right to request reconsideration by the commissioner. The license holder's request for reconsideration must be in writing. If mailed, the request for reconsideration must be postmarked and sent to the commissioner within 20 calendar days after the license holder's receipt of the notice of reduction of licensed beds. If a request for reconsideration is made by personal service, it must be received by the commissioner within 20 calendar days after the license holder's receipt of the notice of reduction of licensed beds.

(j) The commissioner shall not issue an initial license for children's residential treatment services licensed under Minnesota Rules, parts 2960.0580 to 2960.0700, under this chapter for a program that Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services would consider an institution for mental diseases. Facilities that serve only private pay clients are exempt from the moratorium described in this paragraph. The commissioner has the authority to manage existing statewide capacity for children's residential treatment services subject to the moratorium under this paragraph and may issue an initial license for such facilities if the initial license would not increase the statewide capacity for children's residential treatment services subject to the moratorium under this paragraph.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2019, except the amendment to paragraph (a) adding clause (8) is effective retroactively from July 1, 2018, and applies to exception requests made on or after that date.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 245A.11, subdivision 2a, is amended to read:

Subd. 2a. **Adult foster care and community residential setting license capacity.** (a) The commissioner shall issue adult foster care and community residential setting licenses with a maximum licensed capacity of four beds, including nonstaff roomers and boarders, except that the commissioner may issue a license with a capacity of ~~five~~ up to six beds, including roomers and boarders, according to paragraphs (b) to (g).

(b) The license holder may have a maximum license capacity of five if all persons in care are age 55 or over and do not have a serious and persistent mental illness or a developmental disability.

(c) The commissioner may grant variances to paragraph (b) to allow a facility with a licensed capacity of up to five persons to admit an individual under the age of 55 if the variance complies with section 245A.04, subdivision 9, and approval of the variance is recommended by the county in which the licensed facility is located.

(d) The commissioner may grant variances to paragraph (a) to allow the use of an additional bed, up to five, for emergency crisis services for a person with serious and persistent mental illness or a developmental disability, regardless of age, if the variance complies with section 245A.04, subdivision 9, and approval of the variance is recommended by the county in which the licensed facility is located.

(e) The commissioner may grant a variance to paragraph (b) to allow for the use of an additional bed, up to five, for respite services, as defined in section 245A.02, for persons with disabilities, regardless of age, if the variance complies with sections 245A.03, subdivision 7, and 245A.04, subdivision 9, and approval of the variance is recommended by the county in which the licensed facility is located. Respite care may be provided under the following conditions:

(1) staffing ratios cannot be reduced below the approved level for the individuals being served in the home on a permanent basis;

(2) no more than two different individuals can be accepted for respite services in any calendar month and the total respite days may not exceed 120 days per program in any calendar year;

(3) the person receiving respite services must have his or her own bedroom, which could be used for alternative purposes when not used as a respite bedroom, and cannot be the room of another person who lives in the facility; and

(4) individuals living in the facility must be notified when the variance is approved. The provider must give 60 days' notice in writing to the residents and their legal representatives prior to accepting the first respite placement. Notice must be given to residents at least two days prior to service initiation, or as soon as the license holder is able if they receive notice of the need for respite less than two days prior to initiation, each time a respite client will be served, unless the requirement for this notice is waived by the resident or legal guardian.

(f) The commissioner may issue an adult foster care or community residential setting license with a capacity of ~~five~~ six adults if the fifth ~~bed does~~ and sixth beds do not increase the overall statewide capacity of licensed adult foster care or community residential setting beds in homes that are not the primary residence of the license holder, as identified in a plan submitted to the commissioner by the county, when the capacity is recommended by the county licensing agency of the county in which the facility is located and if the recommendation verifies that:

(1) the facility meets the physical environment requirements in the adult foster care licensing rule;

(2) the five-bed or six-bed living arrangement is specified for each resident in the resident's:

(i) individualized plan of care;

(ii) individual service plan under section 256B.092, subdivision 1b, if required; or

(iii) individual resident placement agreement under Minnesota Rules, part 9555.5105, subpart 19, if required;

(3) the license holder obtains written and signed informed consent from each resident or resident's legal representative documenting the resident's informed choice to remain living in the home and that the resident's refusal to consent would not have resulted in service termination; and

(4) the facility was licensed for adult foster care before ~~March 1, 2011~~ June 30, 2016.

(g) The commissioner shall not issue a new adult foster care license under paragraph (f) after June 30, ~~2019~~ 2021. The commissioner shall allow a facility with an adult foster care license issued under paragraph (f) before June 30, ~~2019~~ 2021, to continue with a capacity

of five or six adults if the license holder continues to comply with the requirements in paragraph (f).

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 245D.03, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Applicability.** (a) The commissioner shall regulate the provision of home and community-based services to persons with disabilities and persons age 65 and older pursuant to this chapter. The licensing standards in this chapter govern the provision of basic support services and intensive support services.

(b) Basic support services provide the level of assistance, supervision, and care that is necessary to ensure the health and welfare of the person and do not include services that are specifically directed toward the training, treatment, habilitation, or rehabilitation of the person. Basic support services include:

(1) in-home and out-of-home respite care services as defined in section 245A.02, subdivision 15, and under the brain injury, community alternative care, community access for disability inclusion, developmental ~~disability~~ disabilities, and elderly waiver plans, excluding out-of-home respite care provided to children in a family child foster care home licensed under Minnesota Rules, parts 2960.3000 to 2960.3100, when the child foster care license holder complies with the requirements under section 245D.06, subdivisions 5, 6, 7, and 8, or successor provisions; and section 245D.061 or successor provisions, which must be stipulated in the statement of intended use required under Minnesota Rules, part 2960.3000, subpart 4;

(2) adult companion services as defined under the brain injury, community access for disability inclusion, community alternative care, and elderly waiver plans, excluding adult companion services provided under the Corporation for National and Community Services Senior Companion Program established under the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973, Public Law 98-288;

(3) personal support as defined under the developmental ~~disability~~ disabilities waiver plan;

(4) 24-hour emergency assistance, personal emergency response as defined under the community access for disability inclusion and developmental ~~disability~~ disabilities waiver plans;

(5) night supervision services as defined under the brain injury, community access for disability inclusion, community alternative care, and developmental disabilities waiver ~~plan~~ plans;

(6) homemaker services as defined under the community access for disability inclusion, brain injury, community alternative care, developmental ~~disability~~ disabilities, and elderly waiver plans, excluding providers licensed by the Department of Health under chapter 144A and those providers providing cleaning services only; and

(7) individual community living support under section 256B.0915, subdivision 3j.

(c) Intensive support services provide assistance, supervision, and care that is necessary to ensure the health and welfare of the person and services specifically directed toward the training, habilitation, or rehabilitation of the person. Intensive support services include:

(1) intervention services, including:

(i) ~~behavioral~~ positive support services as defined under the brain injury and community access for disability inclusion, community alternative care, and developmental disabilities waiver plans;

(ii) in-home or out-of-home crisis respite services as defined under the brain injury, community access for disability inclusion, community alternative care, and developmental ~~disability~~ disabilities waiver ~~plan~~ plans; and

(iii) specialist services as defined under the current brain injury, community access for disability inclusion, community alternative care, and developmental ~~disability~~ disabilities waiver ~~plan~~ plans;

(2) in-home support services, including:

(i) in-home family support and supported living services as defined under the developmental ~~disability~~ disabilities waiver plan;

(ii) independent living services training as defined under the brain injury and community access for disability inclusion waiver plans;

(iii) semi-independent living services; and

(iv) individualized home supports services as defined under the brain injury, community alternative care, and community access for disability inclusion waiver plans;

(3) residential supports and services, including:

(i) supported living services as defined under the developmental ~~disability~~ disabilities waiver plan provided in a family or corporate child foster care residence, a family adult foster care residence, a community residential setting, or a supervised living facility;

(ii) foster care services as defined in the brain injury, community alternative care, and community access for disability inclusion waiver plans provided in a family or corporate child foster care residence, a family adult foster care residence, or a community residential setting; and

(iii) residential services provided to more than four persons with developmental disabilities in a supervised living facility, including ICFs/DD;

(4) day services, including:

(i) structured day services as defined under the brain injury waiver plan;

(ii) day training and habilitation services under sections 252.41 to 252.46, and as defined under the developmental ~~disability~~ disabilities waiver plan; and

(iii) prevocational services as defined under the brain injury and community access for disability inclusion waiver plans; and

(5) employment exploration services as defined under the brain injury, community alternative care, community access for disability inclusion, and developmental ~~disability~~ disabilities waiver plans;

(6) employment development services as defined under the brain injury, community alternative care, community access for disability inclusion, and developmental ~~disability~~ disabilities waiver plans; and

(7) employment support services as defined under the brain injury, community alternative care, community access for disability inclusion, and developmental ~~disability~~ disabilities waiver plans.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 245D.071, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Service plan review and evaluation.** (a) The license holder must give the person or the person's legal representative and case manager an opportunity to participate in the ongoing review and development of the service plan and the methods used to support the person and accomplish outcomes identified in subdivisions 3 and 4. At least once per year, or within 30 days of a written request by the person, the person's legal representative, or the case manager, the license holder, in coordination with the person's support team or expanded support team, must meet with the person, the person's legal representative, and the case manager, and participate in service plan review meetings following stated timelines established in the person's coordinated service and support plan or coordinated service and support plan addendum ~~or within 30 days of a written request by the person, the person's~~

~~legal representative, or the case manager, at a minimum of once per year~~. The purpose of the service plan review is to determine whether changes are needed to the service plan based on the assessment information, the license holder's evaluation of progress towards accomplishing outcomes, or other information provided by the support team or expanded support team.

(b) At least once per year, the license holder, in coordination with the person's support team or expanded support team, must meet with the person, the person's legal representative, and the case manager to discuss how technology might be used to meet the person's desired outcomes. The coordinated service and support plan addendum must include a summary of this discussion. The summary must include a statement regarding any decision made related to the use of technology and a description of any further research that must be completed before a decision regarding the use of technology can be made. Nothing in this paragraph requires the coordinated service and support plan to include the use of technology for the provision of services.

~~(b)~~ (c) The license holder must summarize the person's status and progress toward achieving the identified outcomes and make recommendations and identify the rationale for changing, continuing, or discontinuing implementation of supports and methods identified in subdivision 4 in a report available at the time of the progress review meeting. The report must be sent at least five working days prior to the progress review meeting if requested by the team in the coordinated service and support plan or coordinated service and support plan addendum.

~~(c)~~ (d) The license holder must send the coordinated service and support plan addendum to the person, the person's legal representative, and the case manager by mail within ten working days of the progress review meeting. Within ten working days of the mailing of the coordinated service and support plan addendum, the license holder must obtain dated signatures from the person or the person's legal representative and the case manager to document approval of any changes to the coordinated service and support plan addendum.

~~(d)~~ (e) If, within ten working days of submitting changes to the coordinated service and support plan and coordinated service and support plan addendum, the person or the person's legal representative or case manager has not signed and returned to the license holder the coordinated service and support plan or coordinated service and support plan addendum or has not proposed written modifications to the license holder's submission, the submission is deemed approved and the coordinated service and support plan addendum becomes effective and remains in effect until the legal representative or case manager submits a written request to revise the coordinated service and support plan addendum.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 245D.09, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Annual training.** A license holder must provide annual training to direct support staff on the topics identified in subdivision 4, clauses (3) to (10). If the direct support staff has a first aid certification, annual training under subdivision 4, clause (9), is not required as long as the certification remains current. ~~A license holder must provide a minimum of 24 hours of annual training to direct service staff providing intensive services and having fewer than five years of documented experience and 12 hours of annual training to direct service staff providing intensive services and having five or more years of documented experience in topics described in subdivisions 4 and 4a, paragraphs (a) to (f). Training on relevant topics received from sources other than the license holder may count toward training requirements. A license holder must provide a minimum of 12 hours of annual training to direct service staff providing basic services and having fewer than five years of documented experience and six hours of annual training to direct service staff providing basic services and having five or more years of documented experience.~~

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 245D.09, subdivision 5a, is amended to read:

Subd. 5a. **Alternative sources of training.** ~~The commissioner may approve online training and competency-based assessments in place of a specific number of hours of training in the topics covered in subdivision 4. The commissioner must provide a list of preapproved trainings that do not need approval for each individual license holder.~~

Orientation or training received by the staff person from sources other than the license holder in the same subjects as identified in subdivision 4 may count toward the orientation and annual training requirements if received in the 12-month period before the staff person's date of hire. The license holder must maintain documentation of the training received from other sources and of each staff person's competency in the required area according to the requirements in subdivision 3.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 245D.091, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **~~Behavior~~ Positive support professional qualifications.** A ~~behavior~~ positive support professional providing ~~behavioral~~ positive support services as identified in section 245D.03, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), clause (1), item (i), must have competencies in the following areas as required under the brain injury ~~and~~, community access for disability inclusion, community alternative care, and developmental disabilities waiver plans or successor plans:

(1) ethical considerations;

(2) functional assessment;

(3) functional analysis;

(4) measurement of behavior and interpretation of data;

(5) selecting intervention outcomes and strategies;

(6) behavior reduction and elimination strategies that promote least restrictive approved alternatives;

(7) data collection;

(8) staff and caregiver training;

(9) support plan monitoring;

(10) co-occurring mental disorders or neurocognitive disorder;

(11) demonstrated expertise with populations being served; and

(12) must be a:

(i) psychologist licensed under sections 148.88 to 148.98, who has stated to the Board of Psychology competencies in the above identified areas;

(ii) clinical social worker licensed as an independent clinical social worker under chapter 148D, or a person with a master's degree in social work from an accredited college or university, with at least 4,000 hours of post-master's supervised experience in the delivery of clinical services in the areas identified in clauses (1) to (11);

(iii) physician licensed under chapter 147 and certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology or eligible for board certification in psychiatry with competencies in the areas identified in clauses (1) to (11);

(iv) licensed professional clinical counselor licensed under sections 148B.29 to 148B.39 with at least 4,000 hours of post-master's supervised experience in the delivery of clinical services who has demonstrated competencies in the areas identified in clauses (1) to (11);

(v) person with a master's degree from an accredited college or university in one of the behavioral sciences or related fields, with at least 4,000 hours of post-master's supervised experience in the delivery of clinical services with demonstrated competencies in the areas identified in clauses (1) to (11); ~~or~~

(vi) person with a master's degree or PhD in one of the behavioral sciences or related fields with demonstrated expertise in positive support services; or

(vii) registered nurse who is licensed under sections 148.171 to 148.285, and who is certified as a clinical specialist or as a nurse practitioner in adult or family psychiatric and mental health nursing by a national nurse certification organization, or who has a master's degree in nursing or one of the behavioral sciences or related fields from an accredited college or university or its equivalent, with at least 4,000 hours of post-master's supervised experience in the delivery of clinical services.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 245D.091, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **~~Behavior~~ Positive support analyst qualifications.** (a) A ~~behavior~~ positive support analyst providing ~~behavioral~~ positive support services as identified in section 245D.03, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), clause (1), item (i), must have competencies in the following areas as required under the brain injury ~~and~~, community access for disability inclusion, community alternative care, and developmental disabilities waiver plans or successor plans:

(1) have obtained a baccalaureate degree, master's degree, or PhD in a social services discipline; ~~or~~

(2) meet the qualifications of a mental health practitioner as defined in section 245.462, subdivision 17; or

(3) be a board-certified behavior analyst or board-certified assistant behavior analyst by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board, Incorporated.

(b) In addition, a ~~behavior~~ positive support analyst must:

(1) have four years of supervised experience ~~working with individuals who exhibit challenging behaviors as well as co-occurring mental disorders or neurocognitive disorder~~ conducting functional behavior assessments and designing, implementing, and evaluating effectiveness of positive practices behavior support strategies for people who exhibit challenging behaviors as well as co-occurring mental disorders and neurocognitive disorder;

(2) have received ~~ten hours of instruction in functional assessment and functional analysis;~~ training prior to hire or within 90 calendar days of hire that includes:

(i) ten hours of instruction in functional assessment and functional analysis;

(ii) 20 hours of instruction in the understanding of the function of behavior;

(iii) ten hours of instruction on design of positive practices behavior support strategies;

(iv) 20 hours of instruction preparing written intervention strategies, designing data collection protocols, training other staff to implement positive practice strategies,

summarizing and reporting program evaluation data, analyzing program evaluation data to identify design flaws in behavioral interventions or failures in implementation fidelity, and recommending enhancements based on evaluation data; and

(v) eight hours of instruction on principles of person-centered thinking;

~~(3) have received 20 hours of instruction in the understanding of the function of behavior;~~

~~(4) have received ten hours of instruction on design of positive practices behavior support strategies;~~

~~(5) have received 20 hours of instruction on the use of behavior reduction approved strategies used only in combination with behavior positive practices strategies;~~

~~(6)~~ (3) be determined by a ~~behavior~~ positive support professional to have the training and prerequisite skills required to provide positive practice strategies as well as behavior reduction approved and permitted intervention to the person who receives ~~behavioral~~ positive support; and

~~(7)~~ (4) be under the direct supervision of a ~~behavior~~ positive support professional.

(c) Meeting the qualifications for a positive support professional under subdivision 2 shall substitute for meeting the qualifications listed in paragraph (b).

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 245D.091, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **~~Behavior~~ Positive support specialist qualifications.** (a) A ~~behavior~~ positive support specialist providing ~~behavioral~~ positive support services as identified in section 245D.03, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), clause (1), item (i), must have competencies in the following areas as required under the brain injury ~~and~~, community access for disability inclusion, community alternative care, and developmental disabilities waiver plans or successor plans:

(1) have an associate's degree in a social services discipline; or

(2) have two years of supervised experience working with individuals who exhibit challenging behaviors as well as co-occurring mental disorders or neurocognitive disorder.

(b) In addition, a behavior specialist must:

(1) have received training prior to hire or within 90 calendar days of hire that includes:

(i) a minimum of four hours of training in functional assessment;

~~(2) have received~~ (ii) 20 hours of instruction in the understanding of the function of behavior;

~~(3) have received~~ (iii) ten hours of instruction on design of positive practices behavioral support strategies; and

(iv) eight hours of instruction on principles of person-centered thinking;

~~(4)~~ (2) be determined by a ~~behavior~~ positive support professional to have the training and prerequisite skills required to provide positive practices strategies as well as behavior reduction approved intervention to the person who receives ~~behavioral~~ positive support; and

~~(5)~~ (3) be under the direct supervision of a ~~behavior~~ positive support professional.

(c) Meeting the qualifications for a positive support professional under subdivision 2 shall substitute for meeting the qualifications listed in paragraphs (a) and (b).

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 252.275, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Reimbursement.** Counties shall be reimbursed for all expenditures made pursuant to subdivision 1 at a rate of ~~70~~ 85 percent, up to the allocation determined pursuant to subdivisions 4 and 4b. However, the commissioner shall not reimburse costs of services for any person if the costs exceed the state share of the average medical assistance costs for services provided by intermediate care facilities for a person with a developmental disability for the same fiscal year, and shall not reimburse costs of a onetime living allowance for any person if the costs exceed $1,500 in a state fiscal year. The commissioner may make payments to each county in quarterly installments. The commissioner may certify an advance of up to 25 percent of the allocation. Subsequent payments shall be made on a reimbursement basis for reported expenditures and may be adjusted for anticipated spending patterns.

Sec. 11. **[256.488] ADAPTIVE FITNESS ACCESS GRANT.**

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) "Adaptive fitness" means the practice of physical fitness by an individual with primary physical disabilities, either as a consequence of the natural aging process or due to a developmental disability, mental health issue, congenital condition, trauma, injury, or disease.

(b) "Adaptive fitness center" means a center with modified equipment, equipment arrangement and space for access, and trainers with skills in modifying exercise programs specific to the physical and cognitive needs of individuals with disabilities.

(c) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of human services.

(d) "Disability" has the meaning given in the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Subd. 2. **Establishment.** A statewide adaptive fitness access grant program is established under the Department of Human Services to award grants to promote access to adaptive fitness for individuals with disabilities.

Subd. 3. **Application and review.** (a) The commissioner must develop a grant application that must contain, at a minimum:

(1) a description of the purpose or project for which the grant will be used;

(2) a description of the specific problem the grant intends to address;

(3) a description of achievable objectives, a work plan, and a timeline for implementation and completion of processes or projects enabled by the grant;

(4) a description of the existing frameworks and experience providing adaptive fitness; and

(5) a proposed process for documenting and evaluating results of the grant.

(b) An applicant must apply using the grant application developed by the commissioner.

(c) The commissioner shall review each application. The commissioner shall establish criteria to evaluate applications, including but not limited to:

(1) the application is complete;

(2) the eligibility of the applicant;

(3) the thoroughness and clarity in identifying the specific problem the grant intends to address;

(4) a description of the population demographics and service area of the proposed project;

(5) documentation the grant applicant has received cash or in-kind contributions of value equal to the requested grant amount; and

(6) the proposed project's longevity and demonstrated financial sustainability after the initial grant period.

(d) In evaluating applications, the commissioner may request additional information regarding a proposed project, including information on project cost. An applicant's failure to timely provide the information requested disqualifies an applicant.

Subd. 4. **Awards.** (a) The commissioner shall award grants to eligible applicants to provide adaptive fitness for individuals with disabilities.

(b) The commissioner shall award grants to qualifying nonprofit organizations that provide adaptive fitness in adaptive fitness centers. Grants must be used to assist one or more qualified nonprofit organizations to provide adaptive fitness, including: (1) stay fit; (2) activity-based locomotor exercise; (3) equipment necessary for adaptive fitness programs; (4) operating expenses related to staffing of adaptive fitness programs; and (5) other adaptive fitness programs as deemed appropriate by the commissioner.

(c) An applicant may apply for and the commissioner may award grants for two-year periods, and the commissioner shall determine the number of grants awarded. The commissioner may reallocate underspending among grantees within the same grant period.

Subd. 5. **Report.** Beginning December 1, 2020, and every two years thereafter, the commissioner of human services shall submit a report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over health and human services. The report shall, at a minimum, include the amount of funding awarded for each project, a description of the programs and services funded, plans for the long-term sustainability of the projects, and data on outcomes for the programs and services funded. Grantees must provide information and data requested by the commissioner to support the development of this report.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0625, subdivision 19a, is amended to read:

Subd. 19a. **Personal care assistance services.** Medical assistance covers personal care assistance services in a recipient's home. Effective January 1, ~~2010~~ 2020, to qualify for personal care assistance services, a recipient must require assistance and be determined dependent in one critical activity of daily living as defined in section 256B.0659, subdivision 1, paragraph ~~(b)~~ (e), or in a Level I behavior as defined in section 256B.0659, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), or have a behavior that shows increased vulnerability due to cognitive deficits or socially inappropriate behavior that requires assistance at least four times per week. Recipients or responsible parties must be able to identify the recipient's needs, direct and evaluate task accomplishment, and provide for health and safety. Approved hours may be used outside the home when normal life activities take them outside the home. To use personal care assistance services at school, the recipient or responsible party must provide written authorization in the care plan identifying the chosen provider and the daily amount of services to be used at school. Total hours for services, whether actually performed inside or outside the recipient's home, cannot exceed that which is otherwise allowed for personal care assistance services in an in-home setting according to sections 256B.0651 to 256B.0654.

Medical assistance does not cover personal care assistance services for residents of a hospital, nursing facility, intermediate care facility, health care facility licensed by the commissioner of health, or unless a resident who is otherwise eligible is on leave from the facility and the facility either pays for the personal care assistance services or forgoes the facility per diem for the leave days that personal care assistance services are used. All personal care assistance services must be provided according to sections 256B.0651 to 256B.0654. Personal care assistance services may not be reimbursed if the personal care assistant is the spouse or paid guardian of the recipient or the parent of a recipient under age 18, or the responsible party or the family foster care provider of a recipient who cannot direct the recipient's own care unless, in the case of a foster care provider, a county or state case manager visits the recipient as needed, but not less than every six months, to monitor the health and safety of the recipient and to ensure the goals of the care plan are met. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 256B.0659, the unpaid guardian or conservator of an adult, who is not the responsible party and not the personal care provider organization, may be reimbursed to provide personal care assistance services to the recipient if the guardian or conservator meets all criteria for a personal care assistant according to section 256B.0659, and shall not be considered to have a service provider interest for purposes of participation on the screening team under section 256B.092, subdivision 7.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2020, or upon federal approval, whichever is later. The commissioner shall implement the modified eligibility criteria as annual assessments occur. The commissioner shall notify the revisor of statutes when federal approval is obtained.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0652, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Authorization; personal care assistance and qualified professional.** (a) All personal care assistance services, supervision by a qualified professional, and additional services beyond the limits established in subdivision 11, must be authorized by the commissioner or the commissioner's designee before services begin except for the assessments established in subdivision 11 and section 256B.0911. The authorization for personal care assistance and qualified professional services under section 256B.0659 must be completed within 30 days after receiving a complete request.

(b) The amount of personal care assistance services authorized must be based on the recipient's home care rating. The home care rating shall be determined by the commissioner or the commissioner's designee based on information submitted to the commissioner

identifying the following for recipients with dependencies in two or more activities of daily living:

(1) total number of dependencies of activities of daily living as defined in section 256B.0659;

(2) presence of complex health-related needs as defined in section 256B.0659; and

(3) presence of Level I behavior as defined in section 256B.0659.

(c) For purposes meeting the criteria in paragraph (b), the methodology to determine total time for personal care assistance services for each home care rating is based on the median paid units per day for each home care rating from fiscal year 2007 data for the personal care assistance program. Each home care rating has a base level of hours assigned. Additional time is added through the assessment and identification of the following:

(1) 30 additional minutes per day for a dependency in each critical activity of daily living as defined in section 256B.0659;

(2) 30 additional minutes per day for each complex health-related function as defined in section 256B.0659; and

(3) 30 additional minutes per day for each behavior issue as defined in section 256B.0659, subdivision 4, paragraph (d).

(d) Effective July 1, 2011, the home care rating for recipients who have a dependency in one activity of daily living or Level I behavior shall equal no more than two units per day. Effective January 1, 2020, the home care rating for recipients who have a dependency in one critical activity of daily living or one Level I behavior or that require assistance with a behavior that shows increased vulnerability due to cognitive deficits or socially inappropriate behavior at least four times per week shall equal no more than two units per day. Recipients with this home care rating are not subject to the methodology in paragraph (c) and are not eligible for more than two units per day.

(e) A limit of 96 units of qualified professional supervision may be authorized for each recipient receiving personal care assistance services. A request to the commissioner to exceed this total in a calendar year must be requested by the personal care provider agency on a form approved by the commissioner.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2020, or upon federal approval, whichever is later. The commissioner shall implement the modified eligibility criteria as annual assessments occur. The commissioner shall notify the revisor of statutes when federal approval is obtained.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0658, is amended to read:

256B.0658 HOUSING ACCESS GRANTS.

The commissioner of human services shall award through a competitive process contracts for grants to public and private agencies to support and assist individuals ~~eligible for publicly funded home and community-based services, including state plan home care~~ with a disability as defined in section 256B.051, subdivision 2, paragraph (e), to access housing. Grants may be awarded to agencies that may include, but are not limited to, the following supports: assessment to ensure suitability of housing, accompanying an individual to look at housing, filling out applications and rental agreements, meeting with landlords, helping with Section 8 or other program applications, helping to develop a budget, obtaining furniture and household goods, if necessary, and assisting with any problems that may arise with housing.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0659, subdivision 3a, is amended to read:

Subd. 3a. **Assessment; defined.** (a) "Assessment" means a review and evaluation of a recipient's need for personal care assistance services conducted in person. Assessments for personal care assistance services shall be conducted by the county public health nurse or a certified public health nurse under contract with the county except when a long-term care consultation assessment is being conducted for the purposes of determining a person's eligibility for home and community-based waiver services including personal care assistance services according to section 256B.0911. During the transition to MnCHOICES, a certified assessor may complete the assessment defined in this subdivision. An in-person assessment must include: documentation of health status, determination of need, evaluation of service effectiveness, identification of appropriate services, service plan development or modification, coordination of services, referrals and follow-up to appropriate payers and community resources, completion of required reports, recommendation of service authorization, and consumer education. Once the need for personal care assistance services is determined under this section, the county public health nurse or certified public health nurse under contract with the county is responsible for communicating this recommendation to the commissioner and the recipient. An in-person assessment must occur at least annually or when there is a significant change in the recipient's condition or when there is a change in the need for personal care assistance services. A service update may substitute for the annual face-to-face assessment when there is not a significant change in recipient condition or a change in the need for personal care assistance service. A service update may be completed by telephone, used when there is no need for an increase in personal care assistance services, and used for two consecutive assessments if followed by a face-to-face assessment. A service update

must be completed on a form approved by the commissioner. A service update or review for temporary increase includes a review of initial baseline data, evaluation of service effectiveness, redetermination of service need, modification of service plan and appropriate referrals, update of initial forms, obtaining service authorization, and on going consumer education. Assessments or reassessments must be completed on forms provided by the commissioner within 30 days of a request for home care services by a recipient or responsible party.

(b) This subdivision expires when notification is given by the commissioner as described in section 256B.0911, subdivision 3a.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0659, subdivision 11, is amended to read:

Subd. 11. **Personal care assistant; requirements.** (a) A personal care assistant must meet the following requirements:

(1) be at least 18 years of age with the exception of persons who are 16 or 17 years of age with these additional requirements:

(i) supervision by a qualified professional every 60 days; and

(ii) employment by only one personal care assistance provider agency responsible for compliance with current labor laws;

(2) be employed by a personal care assistance provider agency;

(3) enroll with the department as a personal care assistant after clearing a background study. Except as provided in subdivision 11a, before a personal care assistant provides services, the personal care assistance provider agency must initiate a background study on the personal care assistant under chapter 245C, and the personal care assistance provider agency must have received a notice from the commissioner that the personal care assistant is:

(i) not disqualified under section 245C.14; or

(ii) is disqualified, but the personal care assistant has received a set aside of the disqualification under section 245C.22;

(4) be able to effectively communicate with the recipient and personal care assistance provider agency;

(5) be able to provide covered personal care assistance services according to the recipient's personal care assistance care plan, respond appropriately to recipient needs, and report changes in the recipient's condition to the supervising qualified professional or physician;

(6) not be a consumer of personal care assistance services;

(7) maintain daily written records including, but not limited to, time sheets under subdivision 12;

(8) effective January 1, 2010, complete standardized training as determined by the commissioner before completing enrollment. The training must be available in languages other than English and to those who need accommodations due to disabilities. Personal care assistant training must include successful completion of the following training components: basic first aid, vulnerable adult, child maltreatment, OSHA universal precautions, basic roles and responsibilities of personal care assistants including information about assistance with lifting and transfers for recipients, emergency preparedness, orientation to positive behavioral practices, fraud issues, and completion of time sheets. Upon completion of the training components, the personal care assistant must demonstrate the competency to provide assistance to recipients;

(9) complete training and orientation on the needs of the recipient; and

(10) be limited to providing and being paid for up to 275 hours per month of personal care assistance services regardless of the number of recipients being served or the number of personal care assistance provider agencies enrolled with. The number of hours worked per day shall not be disallowed by the department unless in violation of the law.

(b) A legal guardian may be a personal care assistant if the guardian is not being paid for the guardian services and meets the criteria for personal care assistants in paragraph (a).

(c) Persons who do not qualify as a personal care assistant include parents, stepparents, and legal guardians of minors; spouses; paid legal guardians of adults; family foster care providers, except as otherwise allowed in section 256B.0625, subdivision 19a; and staff of a residential setting.

(d) Personal care assistance services qualify for the enhanced rate described in subdivision 17a if the personal care assistant providing the services:

(1) provides services, according to the care plan in subdivision 7, to a recipient who qualifies for ten or more hours per day of personal care assistance services; and

(2) satisfies the current requirements of Medicare for training and competency or competency evaluation of home health aides or nursing assistants, as provided in Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, section 483.151 or 484.36, or alternative state-approved training or competency requirements.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2019.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0659, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 17a. **Enhanced rate.** An enhanced rate of 110 percent of the rate paid for personal care assistance services shall be paid for services provided to persons who qualify for ten or more hours of personal care assistance service per day when provided by a personal care assistant who meets the requirements of subdivision 11, paragraph (d). The enhanced rate for personal care assistance services includes, and is not in addition to, any rate adjustments implemented by the commissioner to comply with the terms of a collective bargaining agreement between the state of Minnesota and an exclusive representative of individual providers under section 179A.54 for increased financial incentives for providing services to people with complex needs.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2019.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0659, subdivision 21, is amended to read:

Subd. 21. **Requirements for provider enrollment of personal care assistance provider agencies.** (a) All personal care assistance provider agencies must provide, at the time of enrollment, reenrollment, and revalidation as a personal care assistance provider agency in a format determined by the commissioner, information and documentation that includes, but is not limited to, the following:

(1) the personal care assistance provider agency's current contact information including address, telephone number, and e-mail address;

(2) proof of surety bond coverage. Upon new enrollment, or if the provider's Medicaid revenue in the previous calendar year is up to and including $300,000, the provider agency must purchase a surety bond of $50,000. If the Medicaid revenue in the previous year is over $300,000, the provider agency must purchase a surety bond of $100,000. The surety bond must be in a form approved by the commissioner, must be renewed annually, and must allow for recovery of costs and fees in pursuing a claim on the bond;

(3) proof of fidelity bond coverage in the amount of $20,000;

(4) proof of workers' compensation insurance coverage;

(5) proof of liability insurance;

(6) a description of the personal care assistance provider agency's organization identifying the names of all owners, managing employees, staff, board of directors, and the affiliations of the directors, owners, or staff to other service providers;

(7) a copy of the personal care assistance provider agency's written policies and procedures including: hiring of employees; training requirements; service delivery; and employee and consumer safety including process for notification and resolution of consumer grievances, identification and prevention of communicable diseases, and employee misconduct;

(8) copies of all other forms the personal care assistance provider agency uses in the course of daily business including, but not limited to:

(i) a copy of the personal care assistance provider agency's time sheet if the time sheet varies from the standard time sheet for personal care assistance services approved by the commissioner, and a letter requesting approval of the personal care assistance provider agency's nonstandard time sheet;

(ii) the personal care assistance provider agency's template for the personal care assistance care plan; and

(iii) the personal care assistance provider agency's template for the written agreement in subdivision 20 for recipients using the personal care assistance choice option, if applicable;

(9) a list of all training and classes that the personal care assistance provider agency requires of its staff providing personal care assistance services;

(10) documentation that the personal care assistance provider agency and staff have successfully completed all the training required by this section, including the requirements under subdivision 11, paragraph (d), if enhanced personal care assistance services are provided and submitted for an enhanced rate under subdivision 17a;

(11) documentation of the agency's marketing practices;

(12) disclosure of ownership, leasing, or management of all residential properties that is used or could be used for providing home care services;

(13) documentation that the agency will use the following percentages of revenue generated from the medical assistance rate paid for personal care assistance services for employee personal care assistant wages and benefits: 72.5 percent of revenue in the personal care assistance choice option and 72.5 percent of revenue from other personal care assistance providers. The revenue generated by the qualified professional and the reasonable costs associated with the qualified professional shall not be used in making this calculation; and

(14) effective May 15, 2010, documentation that the agency does not burden recipients' free exercise of their right to choose service providers by requiring personal care assistants to sign an agreement not to work with any particular personal care assistance recipient or

for another personal care assistance provider agency after leaving the agency and that the agency is not taking action on any such agreements or requirements regardless of the date signed.

(b) Personal care assistance provider agencies shall provide the information specified in paragraph (a) to the commissioner at the time the personal care assistance provider agency enrolls as a vendor or upon request from the commissioner. The commissioner shall collect the information specified in paragraph (a) from all personal care assistance providers beginning July 1, 2009.

(c) All personal care assistance provider agencies shall require all employees in management and supervisory positions and owners of the agency who are active in the day-to-day management and operations of the agency to complete mandatory training as determined by the commissioner before enrollment of the agency as a provider. Employees in management and supervisory positions and owners who are active in the day-to-day operations of an agency who have completed the required training as an employee with a personal care assistance provider agency do not need to repeat the required training if they are hired by another agency, if they have completed the training within the past three years. By September 1, 2010, the required training must be available with meaningful access according to title VI of the Civil Rights Act and federal regulations adopted under that law or any guidance from the United States Health and Human Services Department. The required training must be available online or by electronic remote connection. The required training must provide for competency testing. Personal care assistance provider agency billing staff shall complete training about personal care assistance program financial management. This training is effective July 1, 2009. Any personal care assistance provider agency enrolled before that date shall, if it has not already, complete the provider training within 18 months of July 1, 2009. Any new owners or employees in management and supervisory positions involved in the day-to-day operations are required to complete mandatory training as a requisite of working for the agency. Personal care assistance provider agencies certified for participation in Medicare as home health agencies are exempt from the training required in this subdivision. When available, Medicare-certified home health agency owners, supervisors, or managers must successfully complete the competency test.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2019.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0659, subdivision 24, is amended to read:

Subd. 24. **Personal care assistance provider agency; general duties.** A personal care assistance provider agency shall:

(1) enroll as a Medicaid provider meeting all provider standards, including completion of the required provider training;

(2) comply with general medical assistance coverage requirements;

(3) demonstrate compliance with law and policies of the personal care assistance program to be determined by the commissioner;

(4) comply with background study requirements;

(5) verify and keep records of hours worked by the personal care assistant and qualified professional;

(6) not engage in any agency-initiated direct contact or marketing in person, by phone, or other electronic means to potential recipients, guardians, or family members;

(7) pay the personal care assistant and qualified professional based on actual hours of services provided;

(8) withhold and pay all applicable federal and state taxes;

(9) ~~effective January 1, 2010,~~ document that the agency uses a minimum of 72.5 percent of the revenue generated by the medical assistance rate for personal care assistance services for employee personal care assistant wages and benefits. The revenue generated by the qualified professional and the reasonable costs associated with the qualified professional shall not be used in making this calculation;

(10) make the arrangements and pay unemployment insurance, taxes, workers' compensation, liability insurance, and other benefits, if any;

(11) enter into a written agreement under subdivision 20 before services are provided;

(12) report suspected neglect and abuse to the common entry point according to section 256B.0651;

(13) provide the recipient with a copy of the home care bill of rights at start of service; ~~and~~

(14) request reassessments at least 60 days prior to the end of the current authorization for personal care assistance services, on forms provided by the commissioner~~.~~; and

(15) document that the agency uses the additional revenue due to the enhanced rate under subdivision 17a for the wages and benefits of the PCAs whose services meet the requirements under subdivision 11, paragraph (d).

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2019.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0659, subdivision 28, is amended to read:

Subd. 28. **Personal care assistance provider agency; required documentation.** (a) Required documentation must be completed and kept in the personal care assistance provider agency file or the recipient's home residence. The required documentation consists of:

(1) employee files, including:

(i) applications for employment;

(ii) background study requests and results;

(iii) orientation records about the agency policies;

(iv) trainings completed with demonstration of competence, including verification of the completion of training required under subdivision 11, paragraph (d), for any services billed at the enhanced rate under subdivision 17a;

(v) supervisory visits;

(vi) evaluations of employment; and

(vii) signature on fraud statement;

(2) recipient files, including:

(i) demographics;

(ii) emergency contact information and emergency backup plan;

(iii) personal care assistance service plan;

(iv) personal care assistance care plan;

(v) month-to-month service use plan;

(vi) all communication records;

(vii) start of service information, including the written agreement with recipient; and

(viii) date the home care bill of rights was given to the recipient;

(3) agency policy manual, including:

(i) policies for employment and termination;

(ii) grievance policies with resolution of consumer grievances;

(iii) staff and consumer safety;

(iv) staff misconduct; and

(v) staff hiring, service delivery, staff and consumer safety, staff misconduct, and resolution of consumer grievances;

(4) time sheets for each personal care assistant along with completed activity sheets for each recipient served; and

(5) agency marketing and advertising materials and documentation of marketing activities and costs.

(b) The commissioner may assess a fine of up to $500 on provider agencies that do not consistently comply with the requirements of this subdivision.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2019.

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0911, subdivision 1a, is amended to read:

Subd. 1a. **Definitions.** For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(a) Until additional requirements apply under paragraph (b), "long-term care consultation services" means:

(1) intake for and access to assistance in identifying services needed to maintain an individual in the most inclusive environment;

(2) providing recommendations for and referrals to cost-effective community services that are available to the individual;

(3) development of an individual's person-centered community support plan;

(4) providing information regarding eligibility for Minnesota health care programs;

(5) face-to-face long-term care consultation assessments, which may be completed in a hospital, nursing facility, intermediate care facility for persons with developmental disabilities (ICF/DDs), regional treatment centers, or the person's current or planned residence;

(6) determination of home and community-based waiver and other service eligibility as required under sections 256B.0913, 256B.0915, 256B.092, and 256B.49, including level of care determination for individuals who need an institutional level of care as determined under subdivision 4e, based on assessment and community support plan development, appropriate referrals to obtain necessary diagnostic information, and including an eligibility determination for consumer-directed community supports;

(7) providing recommendations for institutional placement when there are no cost-effective community services available;

(8) providing access to assistance to transition people back to community settings after institutional admission; and

(9) providing information about competitive employment, with or without supports, for school-age youth and working-age adults and referrals to the Disability Linkage Line and Disability Benefits 101 to ensure that an informed choice about competitive employment can be made. For the purposes of this subdivision, "competitive employment" means work in the competitive labor market that is performed on a full-time or part-time basis in an integrated setting, and for which an individual is compensated at or above the minimum wage, but not less than the customary wage and level of benefits paid by the employer for the same or similar work performed by individuals without disabilities.

(b) Upon statewide implementation of lead agency requirements in subdivisions 2b, 2c, and 3a, "long-term care consultation services" also means:

(1) service eligibility determination for state plan ~~home care~~ services identified in:

(i) section 256B.0625, subdivisions ~~7,~~ 19a~~,~~ and 19c;

(ii) consumer support grants under section 256.476; or

(iii) section 256B.85;

(2) notwithstanding provisions in Minnesota Rules, parts 9525.0004 to 9525.0024, ~~determination of eligibility for~~ gaining access to case management services available under sections 256B.0621, subdivision 2, ~~paragraph~~ clause (4), ~~and~~ 256B.0924, and Minnesota Rules, part 9525.0016;

(3) determination ~~of institutional level of care, home and community-based service waiver, and other service~~ of eligibility ~~as required under section 256B.092, determination of eligibility for family support grants under section 252.32,~~ for semi-independent living services under section 252.275~~, and day training and habilitation services under section 256B.092~~; and

(4) obtaining necessary diagnostic information to determine eligibility under clauses (2) and (3).

(c) "Long-term care options counseling" means the services provided by the linkage lines as mandated by sections 256.01, subdivision 24, and 256.975, subdivision 7, and also includes telephone assistance and follow up once a long-term care consultation assessment has been completed.

(d) "Minnesota health care programs" means the medical assistance program under this chapter and the alternative care program under section 256B.0913.

(e) "Lead agencies" means counties administering or tribes and health plans under contract with the commissioner to administer long-term care consultation assessment and support planning services.

(f) "Person-centered planning" is a process that includes the active participation of a person in the planning of the person's services, including in making meaningful and informed choices about the person's own goals, talents, and objectives, as well as making meaningful and informed choices about the services the person receives. For the purposes of this section, "informed choice" means a voluntary choice of services by a person from all available service options based on accurate and complete information concerning all available service options and concerning the person's own preferences, abilities, goals, and objectives. In order for a person to make an informed choice, all available options must be developed and presented to the person to empower the person to make decisions.

Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0911, subdivision 3a, is amended to read:

Subd. 3a. **Assessment and support planning.** (a) Persons requesting assessment, services planning, or other assistance intended to support community-based living, including persons who need assessment in order to determine waiver or alternative care program eligibility, must be visited by a long-term care consultation team within 20 calendar days after the date on which an assessment was requested or recommended. Upon statewide implementation of subdivisions 2b, 2c, and 5, this requirement also applies to an assessment of a person requesting personal care assistance services ~~and home care nursing. The commissioner shall provide at least a 90-day notice to lead agencies prior to the effective date of this requirement~~. Face-to-face assessments must be conducted according to paragraphs (b) to (i).

(b) Upon implementation of subdivisions 2b, 2c, and 5, lead agencies shall use certified assessors to conduct the assessment. For a person with complex health care needs, a public health or registered nurse from the team must be consulted.

(c) The MnCHOICES assessment provided by the commissioner to lead agencies must be used to complete a comprehensive, conversation-based, person-centered assessment. The assessment must include the health, psychological, functional, environmental, and social needs of the individual necessary to develop a community support plan that meets the individual's needs and preferences.

(d) The assessment must be conducted in a face-to-face conversational interview with the person being assessed ~~and~~. The person's legal representative must provide input during the assessment process and may do so remotely if requested. At the request of the person, other individuals may participate in the assessment to provide information on the needs, strengths, and preferences of the person necessary to develop a community support plan that ensures the person's health and safety. Except for legal representatives or family members invited by the person, persons participating in the assessment may not be a provider of service or have any financial interest in the provision of services. For persons who are to be assessed for elderly waiver customized living or adult day services under section 256B.0915, with the permission of the person being assessed or the person's designated or legal representative, the client's current or proposed provider of services may submit a copy of the provider's nursing assessment or written report outlining its recommendations regarding the client's care needs. The person conducting the assessment must notify the provider of the date by which this information is to be submitted. This information shall be provided to the person conducting the assessment prior to the assessment. For a person who is to be assessed for waiver services under section 256B.092 or 256B.49, with the permission of the person being assessed or the person's designated legal representative, the person's current provider of services may submit a written report outlining recommendations regarding the person's care needs prepared by a direct service employee who is familiar with ~~at least 20 hours of service to that client. The person conducting the assessment or reassessment must notify the provider of the date by which this information is to be submitted. This information shall be provided to the person conducting the assessment and the person or the person's legal representative, and must be considered prior to the finalization of the assessment or reassessment~~ the person. The provider must submit the report at least 60 days before the end of the person's current service agreement. The certified assessor must consider the content of the submitted report prior to finalizing the person's assessment or reassessment.

(e) The certified assessor and the individual responsible for developing the coordinated service and support plan must complete the community support plan and the coordinated service and support plan no more than 60 calendar days from the assessment visit. The person or the person's legal representative must be provided with a written community support plan within ~~40 calendar days of the assessment visit~~ the timelines established by the commissioner, regardless of whether the ~~individual~~ person is eligible for Minnesota health care programs.

(f) For a person being assessed for elderly waiver services under section 256B.0915, a provider who submitted information under paragraph (d) shall receive the final written community support plan when available and the Residential Services Workbook.

(g) The written community support plan must include:

(1) a summary of assessed needs as defined in paragraphs (c) and (d);

(2) the individual's options and choices to meet identified needs, including all available options for case management services and providers, including service provided in a non-disability-specific setting;

(3) identification of health and safety risks and how those risks will be addressed, including personal risk management strategies;

(4) referral information; and

(5) informal caregiver supports, if applicable.

For a person determined eligible for state plan home care under subdivision 1a, paragraph (b), clause (1), the person or person's representative must also receive a copy of the home care service plan developed by the certified assessor.

(h) A person may request assistance in identifying community supports without participating in a complete assessment. Upon a request for assistance identifying community support, the person must be transferred or referred to long-term care options counseling services available under sections 256.975, subdivision 7, and 256.01, subdivision 24, for telephone assistance and follow up.

(i) The person has the right to make the final decision between institutional placement and community placement after the recommendations have been provided, except as provided in section 256.975, subdivision 7a, paragraph (d).

(j) The lead agency must give the person receiving assessment or support planning, or the person's legal representative, materials, and forms supplied by the commissioner containing the following information:

(1) written recommendations for community-based services and consumer-directed options;

(2) documentation that the most cost-effective alternatives available were offered to the individual. For purposes of this clause, "cost-effective" means community services and living arrangements that cost the same as or less than institutional care. For an individual found to meet eligibility criteria for home and community-based service programs under

section 256B.0915 or 256B.49, "cost-effectiveness" has the meaning found in the federally approved waiver plan for each program;

(3) the need for and purpose of preadmission screening conducted by long-term care options counselors according to section 256.975, subdivisions 7a to 7c, if the person selects nursing facility placement. If the individual selects nursing facility placement, the lead agency shall forward information needed to complete the level of care determinations and screening for developmental disability and mental illness collected during the assessment to the long-term care options counselor using forms provided by the commissioner;

(4) the role of long-term care consultation assessment and support planning in eligibility determination for waiver and alternative care programs, and state plan home care, case management, and other services as defined in subdivision 1a, paragraphs (a), clause (6), and (b);

(5) information about Minnesota health care programs;

(6) the person's freedom to accept or reject the recommendations of the team;

(7) the person's right to confidentiality under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, chapter 13;

(8) the certified assessor's decision regarding the person's need for institutional level of care as determined under criteria established in subdivision 4e and the certified assessor's decision regarding eligibility for all services and programs as defined in subdivision 1a, paragraphs (a), clause (6), and (b); and

(9) the person's right to appeal the certified assessor's decision regarding eligibility for all services and programs as defined in subdivision 1a, paragraphs (a), clauses (6), (7), and (8), and (b), and incorporating the decision regarding the need for institutional level of care or the lead agency's final decisions regarding public programs eligibility according to section 256.045, subdivision 3. The certified assessor must verbally communicate this appeal right to the person and must visually point out where in the document the right to appeal is stated.

(k) Face-to-face assessment completed as part of eligibility determination for the alternative care, elderly waiver, developmental disabilities, community access for disability inclusion, community alternative care, and brain injury waiver programs under sections 256B.0913, 256B.0915, 256B.092, and 256B.49 is valid to establish service eligibility for no more than 60 calendar days after the date of assessment.

(l) The effective eligibility start date for programs in paragraph (k) can never be prior to the date of assessment. If an assessment was completed more than 60 days before the

effective waiver or alternative care program eligibility start date, assessment and support plan information must be updated and documented in the department's Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS). Notwithstanding retroactive medical assistance coverage of state plan services, the effective date of eligibility for programs included in paragraph (k) cannot be prior to the date the most recent updated assessment is completed.

(m) If an eligibility update is completed within 90 days of the previous face-to-face assessment and documented in the department's Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS), the effective date of eligibility for programs included in paragraph (k) is the date of the previous face-to-face assessment when all other eligibility requirements are met.

(n) At the time of reassessment, the certified assessor shall assess each person receiving waiver services currently residing in a community residential setting, or licensed adult foster care home that is not the primary residence of the license holder, or in which the license holder is not the primary caregiver, to determine if that person would prefer to be served in a community-living setting as defined in section 256B.49, subdivision 23. The certified assessor shall offer the person, through a person-centered planning process, the option to receive alternative housing and service options.

Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0911, subdivision 3f, is amended to read:

Subd. 3f. **Long-term care reassessments and community support plan updates.** (a) Prior to a face-to-face reassessment, the certified assessor must review the person's most recent assessment. Reassessments must be tailored using the professional judgment of the assessor to the person's known needs, strengths, preferences, and circumstances. Reassessments provide information to support the person's informed choice and opportunities to express choice regarding activities that contribute to quality of life, as well as information and opportunity to identify goals related to desired employment, community activities, and preferred living environment. Reassessments ~~allow for~~ require a review of the most recent assessment, review of the current coordinated service and support plan's effectiveness, monitoring of services, and the development of an updated person-centered community support plan. Reassessments verify continued eligibility or offer alternatives as warranted and provide an opportunity for quality assurance of service delivery. Face-to-face ~~assessments~~ reassessments must be conducted annually or as required by federal and state laws and rules. For reassessments, the certified assessor and the individual responsible for developing the coordinated service and support plan must ensure the continuity of care for the person receiving services and complete the updated community support plan and the updated coordinated service and support plan no more than 60 days from the reassessment visit.

(b) The commissioner shall develop mechanisms for providers and case managers to share information with the assessor to facilitate a reassessment and support planning process tailored to the person's current needs and preferences.

Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0911, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 3g. **Assessments for Rule 185 case management.** Unless otherwise required by federal law, the county agency is not required to conduct or arrange for an annual needs reassessment by a certified assessor. The case manager who works on behalf of the person to identify the person's needs and to minimize the impact of the disability on the person's life must instead develop a person-centered service plan based on the person's assessed needs and preferences. The person-centered service plan must be reviewed annually for persons with developmental disabilities who are receiving only case management services under Minnesota Rules, part 9525.0036, and who make an informed choice to decline an assessment under this section.

Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0911, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Administrative activity.** (a) The commissioner shall streamline the processes, including timelines for when assessments need to be completed, required to provide the services in this section and shall implement integrated solutions to automate the business processes to the extent necessary for community support plan approval, reimbursement, program planning, evaluation, and policy development.

(b) The commissioner of human services shall work with lead agencies responsible for conducting long-term consultation services to modify the MnCHOICES application and assessment policies to create efficiencies while ensuring federal compliance with medical assistance and long-term services and supports eligibility criteria.

(c) The commissioner shall work with lead agencies responsible for conducting long-term consultation services to develop a set of measurable benchmarks sufficient to demonstrate quarterly improvement in the average time per assessment and other mutually agreed upon measures of increasing efficiency. The commissioner shall collect data on these benchmarks and provide to the lead agencies and the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over human services an annual trend analysis of the data in order to demonstrate the commissioner's compliance with the requirements of this subdivision.

Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0915, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Implementation of coordinated service and support plan.** (a) Each elderly waiver client shall be provided a copy of a written coordinated service and support plan ~~which~~ that:

(1) is developed with and signed by the recipient within ~~ten working days after the case manager receives the assessment information and written community support plan as described in section 256B.0911, subdivision 3a, from the certified assessor~~ the timelines established by the commissioner. The timeline for completing the community support plan under section 256B.0911, subdivision 3a, and the coordinated service and support plan must not exceed 60 calendar days from the assessment visit;

(2) includes the person's need for service and identification of service needs that will be or that are met by the person's relatives, friends, and others, as well as community services used by the general public;

(3) reasonably ensures the health and welfare of the recipient;

(4) identifies the person's preferences for services as stated by the person or the person's legal guardian or conservator;

(5) reflects the person's informed choice between institutional and community-based services, as well as choice of services, supports, and providers, including available case manager providers;

(6) identifies long-range and short-range goals for the person;

(7) identifies specific services and the amount, frequency, duration, and cost of the services to be provided to the person based on assessed needs, preferences, and available resources;

(8) includes information about the right to appeal decisions under section 256.045; and

(9) includes the authorized annual and estimated monthly amounts for the services.

(b) In developing the coordinated service and support plan, the case manager should also include the use of volunteers, religious organizations, social clubs, and civic and service organizations to support the individual in the community. The lead agency must be held harmless for damages or injuries sustained through the use of volunteers and agencies under this paragraph, including workers' compensation liability.

Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0915, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

Subd. 10. **Waiver payment rates; managed care organizations.** The commissioner shall adjust the elderly waiver capitation payment rates for managed care organizations paid under section 256B.69, subdivisions 6b and 23, to reflect the maximum service rate limits for customized living services and 24-hour customized living services under subdivisions 3e and 3h, and the rate adjustment under subdivision 18. Medical assistance rates paid to customized living providers by managed care organizations under this section shall not exceed the maximum service rate limits and component rates as determined by the commissioner under subdivisions 3e and 3h, plus any rate adjustment under subdivision 18.

Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0915, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 18. **Disproportionate share establishment customized living rate adjustment.** (a) For purposes of this section, "designated disproportionate share establishment" means a housing with services establishment registered under chapter 144D that meets the requirements of paragraph (d).

(b) A housing with services establishment registered under chapter 144D may apply annually between June 1 and June 15 to the commissioner to be designated as a disproportionate share establishment. The applying housing with services establishment must apply to the commissioner in the manner determined by the commissioner. The applying housing with services establishment must document as a percentage the census of elderly waiver participants residing in the establishment on May 31 of the year of application.

(c) Only a housing with services establishment registered under chapter 144D with a census of at least 50 percent elderly waiver participants on May 31 of the application year is eligible under this section for designation as a disproportionate share establishment.

(d) By June 30, the commissioner shall designate as a disproportionate share establishment any housing with services establishment that complies with the requirements of paragraph (b) and meets the eligibility criteria described in paragraph (c).

(e) A designated disproportionate share establishment's customized living rate adjustment is the sum of 0.83 plus the product of 0.36 multiplied by the percentage of elderly waiver participants residing in the establishment as reported on the establishment's most recent application for designation as a disproportionate share establishment. No establishment may receive a customized living rate adjustment greater than 1.10.

(f) The commissioner shall multiply the customized living rate and 24-hour customized living rate for a designated disproportionate share establishment by the amount determined under paragraph (e).

(g) The value of the rate adjustment under paragraph (e) shall not be included in an individual elderly waiver client's monthly case mix budget cap.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2020, or upon federal approval, whichever is later, and applies to rates paid on or after January 1, 2021. The commissioner of human services shall inform the revisor of statutes when federal approval is obtained.

Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.092, subdivision 1b, is amended to read:

Subd. 1b. **Coordinated service and support plan.** (a) Each recipient of home and community-based waivered services shall be provided a copy of the written coordinated service and support plan ~~which~~ that:

(1) is developed with and signed by the recipient within ~~ten working days after the case manager receives the assessment information and written community support plan as described in section 256B.0911, subdivision 3a, from the certified assessor~~ the timelines established by the commissioner. The timeline for completing the community support plan under section 256B.0911, subdivision 3a, and the coordinated service and support plan must not exceed 60 calendar days from the assessment visit;

(2) includes the person's need for service, including identification of service needs that will be or that are met by the person's relatives, friends, and others, as well as community services used by the general public;

(3) reasonably ensures the health and welfare of the recipient;

(4) identifies the person's preferences for services as stated by the person, the person's legal guardian or conservator, or the parent if the person is a minor, including the person's choices made on self-directed options and on services and supports to achieve employment goals;

(5) provides for an informed choice, as defined in section 256B.77, subdivision 2, paragraph (o), of service and support providers, and identifies all available options for case management services and providers;

(6) identifies long-range and short-range goals for the person;

(7) identifies specific services and the amount and frequency of the services to be provided to the person based on assessed needs, preferences, and available resources. The coordinated

service and support plan shall also specify other services the person needs that are not available;

(8) identifies the need for an individual program plan to be developed by the provider according to the respective state and federal licensing and certification standards, and additional assessments to be completed or arranged by the provider after service initiation;

(9) identifies provider responsibilities to implement and make recommendations for modification to the coordinated service and support plan;

(10) includes notice of the right to request a conciliation conference or a hearing under section 256.045;

(11) is agreed upon and signed by the person, the person's legal guardian or conservator, or the parent if the person is a minor, and the authorized county representative;

(12) is reviewed by a health professional if the person has overriding medical needs that impact the delivery of services; and

(13) includes the authorized annual and monthly amounts for the services.

(b) In developing the coordinated service and support plan, the case manager is encouraged to include the use of volunteers, religious organizations, social clubs, and civic and service organizations to support the individual in the community. The lead agency must be held harmless for damages or injuries sustained through the use of volunteers and agencies under this paragraph, including workers' compensation liability.

(c) Approved, written, and signed changes to a consumer's services that meet the criteria in this subdivision shall be an addendum to that consumer's individual service plan.

Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.092, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 12a. **Developmental disabilities waiver growth limit.** The commissioner shall limit the total number of people receiving developmental disabilities waiver services to the number of people receiving developmental disabilities waiver services on June 30, 2019. The commissioner shall only add new recipients when an existing recipient permanently leaves the program. The commissioner shall reserve capacity, within enrollment limits, to re-enroll persons who temporarily discontinue and then resume waiver services within 90 days of the date that services were discontinued. When adding a new recipient, the commissioner shall target persons who meet the priorities for accessing waiver services identified in subdivision 12. The allocation limits include conversions from intermediate

care facilities for persons with developmental disabilities unless capacity at the facility is permanently converted to home and community-based services through the developmental disabilities waiver.

Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0921, is amended to read:

256B.0921 HOME AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES ~~INCENTIVE~~ INNOVATION POOL.

The commissioner of human services shall develop an initiative to provide incentives for innovation in: (1) achieving integrated competitive employment; (2) achieving integrated competitive employment for youth under age 25 upon their graduation from school; (3) living in the most integrated setting; and (4) other outcomes determined by the commissioner. The commissioner shall seek requests for proposals and shall contract with one or more entities to provide incentive payments for meeting identified outcomes.

Sec. 32. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.49, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 11b. **Community access for disability inclusion waiver growth limit.** The commissioner shall limit the total number of people receiving community access for disability inclusion waiver services to the number of people receiving community access for disability inclusion waiver services on June 30, 2019. The commissioner shall only add new recipients when an existing recipient permanently leaves the program. The commissioner shall reserve capacity, within enrollment limits, to re-enroll persons who temporarily discontinue and then resume waiver services within 90 days of the date that services were discontinued. When adding a new recipient, the commissioner shall target individuals who meet the priorities for accessing waiver services identified in subdivision 11a. The allocation limits includes conversions and diversions from nursing facilities.

Sec. 33. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.49, subdivision 13, is amended to read:

Subd. 13. **Case management.** (a) Each recipient of a home and community-based waiver shall be provided case management services by qualified vendors as described in the federally approved waiver application. The case management service activities provided must include:

(1) finalizing the written coordinated service and support plan within ~~ten working days after the case manager receives the plan from the certified assessor~~ the timelines established by the commissioner. The timeline for completing the community support plan under section

256B.0911, subdivision 3a, and the coordinated service and support plan must not exceed 60 calendar days from the assessment visit;

(2) informing the recipient or the recipient's legal guardian or conservator of service options;

(3) assisting the recipient in the identification of potential service providers and available options for case management service and providers, including services provided in a non-disability-specific setting;

(4) assisting the recipient to access services and assisting with appeals under section 256.045; and

(5) coordinating, evaluating, and monitoring of the services identified in the service plan.

(b) The case manager may delegate certain aspects of the case management service activities to another individual provided there is oversight by the case manager. The case manager may not delegate those aspects which require professional judgment including:

(1) finalizing the coordinated service and support plan;

(2) ongoing assessment and monitoring of the person's needs and adequacy of the approved coordinated service and support plan; and

(3) adjustments to the coordinated service and support plan.

(c) Case management services must be provided by a public or private agency that is enrolled as a medical assistance provider determined by the commissioner to meet all of the requirements in the approved federal waiver plans. Case management services must not be provided to a recipient by a private agency that has any financial interest in the provision of any other services included in the recipient's coordinated service and support plan. For purposes of this section, "private agency" means any agency that is not identified as a lead agency under section 256B.0911, subdivision 1a, paragraph (e).

(d) For persons who need a positive support transition plan as required in chapter 245D, the case manager shall participate in the development and ongoing evaluation of the plan with the expanded support team. At least quarterly, the case manager, in consultation with the expanded support team, shall evaluate the effectiveness of the plan based on progress evaluation data submitted by the licensed provider to the case manager. The evaluation must identify whether the plan has been developed and implemented in a manner to achieve the following within the required timelines:

(1) phasing out the use of prohibited procedures;

(2) acquisition of skills needed to eliminate the prohibited procedures within the plan's timeline; and

(3) accomplishment of identified outcomes.

If adequate progress is not being made, the case manager shall consult with the person's expanded support team to identify needed modifications and whether additional professional support is required to provide consultation.

Sec. 34. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.49, subdivision 14, is amended to read:

Subd. 14. **Assessment and reassessment.** (a) Assessments and reassessments shall be conducted by certified assessors according to section 256B.0911, subdivision 2b. The certified assessor, with the permission of the recipient or the recipient's designated legal representative, may invite other individuals to attend the assessment. With the permission of the recipient or the recipient's designated legal representative, the recipient's current provider of services may submit a written report outlining their recommendations regarding the recipient's care needs prepared by a direct service employee ~~with at least 20 hours of service to that client. The certified assessor must notify the provider of the date by which this information is to be submitted. This information shall be provided to the certified assessor and the person or the person's legal representative and must be considered prior to the finalization of the assessment or reassessment~~ who is familiar with the person. The provider must submit the report at least 60 days before the end of the person's current service agreement. The certified assessor must consider the content of the submitted report prior to finalizing the person's assessment or reassessment.

(b) There must be a determination that the client requires a hospital level of care or a nursing facility level of care as defined in section 256B.0911, subdivision 4e, at initial and subsequent assessments to initiate and maintain participation in the waiver program.

(c) Regardless of other assessments identified in section 144.0724, subdivision 4, as appropriate to determine nursing facility level of care for purposes of medical assistance payment for nursing facility services, only face-to-face assessments conducted according to section 256B.0911, subdivisions 3a, 3b, and 4d, that result in a hospital level of care determination or a nursing facility level of care determination must be accepted for purposes of initial and ongoing access to waiver services payment.

(d) Recipients who are found eligible for home and community-based services under this section before their 65th birthday may remain eligible for these services after their 65th birthday if they continue to meet all other eligibility factors.

Sec. 35. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.4914, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Definitions.** (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms have the meanings given them, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

(b) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of human services.

(c) "Component value" means underlying factors that are part of the cost of providing services that are built into the waiver rates methodology to calculate service rates.

(d) "Customized living tool" means a methodology for setting service rates that delineates and documents the amount of each component service included in a recipient's customized living service plan.

(e) "Direct care staff" means employees providing direct services to an individual receiving services under this section. Direct care staff excludes executive, managerial, or administrative staff.

~~(e)~~ (f) "Disability waiver rates system" means a statewide system that establishes rates that are based on uniform processes and captures the individualized nature of waiver services and recipient needs.

~~(f)~~ (g) "Individual staffing" means the time spent as a one-to-one interaction specific to an individual recipient by staff to provide direct support and assistance with activities of daily living, instrumental activities of daily living, and training to participants, and is based on the requirements in each individual's coordinated service and support plan under section 245D.02, subdivision 4b; any coordinated service and support plan addendum under section 245D.02, subdivision 4c; and an assessment tool. Provider observation of an individual's needs must also be considered.

~~(g)~~ (h) "Lead agency" means a county, partnership of counties, or tribal agency charged with administering waivered services under sections 256B.092 and 256B.49.

~~(h)~~ (i) "Median" means the amount that divides distribution into two equal groups, one-half above the median and one-half below the median.

~~(i)~~ (j) "Payment or rate" means reimbursement to an eligible provider for services provided to a qualified individual based on an approved service authorization.

~~(j)~~ (k) "Rates management system" means a web-based software application that uses a framework and component values, as determined by the commissioner, to establish service rates.

~~(k)~~ (l) "Recipient" means a person receiving home and community-based services funded under any of the disability waivers.

~~(l)~~ (m) "Shared staffing" means time spent by employees, not defined under paragraph (f), providing or available to provide more than one individual with direct support and assistance with activities of daily living as defined under section 256B.0659, subdivision 1, paragraph (b); instrumental activities of daily living as defined under section 256B.0659, subdivision 1, paragraph (i); ancillary activities needed to support individual services; and training to participants, and is based on the requirements in each individual's coordinated service and support plan under section 245D.02, subdivision 4b; any coordinated service and support plan addendum under section 245D.02, subdivision 4c; an assessment tool; and provider observation of an individual's service need. Total shared staffing hours are divided proportionally by the number of individuals who receive the shared service provisions.

~~(m)~~ (n) "Staffing ratio" means the number of recipients a service provider employee supports during a unit of service based on a uniform assessment tool, provider observation, case history, and the recipient's services of choice, and not based on the staffing ratios under section 245D.31.

~~(n)~~ (o) "Unit of service" means the following:

(1) for residential support services under subdivision 6, a unit of service is a day. Any portion of any calendar day, within allowable Medicaid rules, where an individual spends time in a residential setting is billable as a day;

(2) for day services under subdivision 7:

(i) for day training and habilitation services, a unit of service is either:

(A) a day unit of service is defined as six or more hours of time spent providing direct services and transportation; or

(B) a partial day unit of service is defined as fewer than six hours of time spent providing direct services and transportation; and

(C) for new day service recipients after January 1, 2014, 15 minute units of service must be used for fewer than six hours of time spent providing direct services and transportation;

(ii) for adult day and structured day services, a unit of service is a day or 15 minutes. A day unit of service is six or more hours of time spent providing direct services;

(iii) for prevocational services, a unit of service is a day or an hour. A day unit of service is six or more hours of time spent providing direct service;

(3) for unit-based services with programming under subdivision 8:

(i) for supported living services, a unit of service is a day or 15 minutes. When a day rate is authorized, any portion of a calendar day where an individual receives services is billable as a day; and

(ii) for all other services, a unit of service is 15 minutes; and

(4) for unit-based services without programming under subdivision 9, a unit of service is 15 minutes.

Sec. 36. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.4914, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Applicable services.** Applicable services are those authorized under the state's home and community-based services waivers under sections 256B.092 and 256B.49, including the following, as defined in the federally approved home and community-based services plan:

(1) 24-hour customized living;

(2) adult day care;

(3) adult day care bath;

~~(4) behavioral programming;~~

~~(5)~~ (4) companion services;

~~(6)~~ (5) customized living;

~~(7)~~ (6) day training and habilitation;

(7) employment development services;

(8) employment exploration services;

(9) employment support services;

~~(8)~~ (10) housing access coordination;

~~(9)~~ (11) independent living skills;

(12) independent living skills specialist services;

(13) individualized home supports;

~~(10)~~ (14) in-home family support;

~~(11)~~ (15) night supervision;

~~(12)~~ (16) personal support;

(17) positive support service;

~~(13)~~ (18) prevocational services;

~~(14)~~ (19) residential care services;

~~(15)~~ (20) residential support services;

~~(16)~~ (21) respite services;

~~(17)~~ (22) structured day services;

~~(18)~~ (23) supported employment services;

~~(19)~~ (24) supported living services;

~~(20)~~ (25) transportation services; and

~~(21) individualized home supports;~~

~~(22) independent living skills specialist services;~~

~~(23) employment exploration services;~~

~~(24) employment development services;~~

~~(25) employment support services; and~~

(26) other services as approved by the federal government in the state home and community-based services plan.

Sec. 37. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.4914, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Base wage index and standard component values.** (a) The base wage index is established to determine staffing costs associated with providing services to individuals receiving home and community-based services. For purposes of developing and calculating the proposed base wage, Minnesota-specific wages taken from job descriptions and standard occupational classification (SOC) codes from the Bureau of Labor Statistics as defined in the most recent edition of the Occupational Handbook must be used. The base wage index must be calculated as follows:

(1) for residential direct care staff, the sum of:

(i) 15 percent of the subtotal of 50 percent of the median wage for personal and home health aide (SOC code 39-9021); 30 percent of the median wage for nursing assistant (SOC code 31-1014); and 20 percent of the median wage for social and human services aide (SOC code 21-1093); and

(ii) 85 percent of the subtotal of 20 percent of the median wage for home health aide (SOC code 31-1011); 20 percent of the median wage for personal and home health aide (SOC code 39-9021); 20 percent of the median wage for nursing assistant (SOC code 31-1014); 20 percent of the median wage for psychiatric technician (SOC code 29-2053); and 20 percent of the median wage for social and human services aide (SOC code 21-1093);

(2) for day services, 20 percent of the median wage for nursing assistant (SOC code 31-1014); 20 percent of the median wage for psychiatric technician (SOC code 29-2053); and 60 percent of the median wage for social and human services aide (SOC code 21-1093);

(3) for residential asleep-overnight staff, the wage is the minimum wage in Minnesota for large employers, except in a family foster care setting, the wage is 36 percent of the minimum wage in Minnesota for large employers;

(4) for behavior program analyst staff, 100 percent of the median wage for mental health counselors (SOC code 21-1014);

(5) for behavior program professional staff, 100 percent of the median wage for clinical counseling and school psychologist (SOC code 19-3031);

(6) for behavior program specialist staff, 100 percent of the median wage for psychiatric technicians (SOC code 29-2053);

(7) for supportive living services staff, 20 percent of the median wage for nursing assistant (SOC code 31-1014); 20 percent of the median wage for psychiatric technician (SOC code 29-2053); and 60 percent of the median wage for social and human services aide (SOC code 21-1093);

(8) for housing access coordination staff, 100 percent of the median wage for community and social services specialist (SOC code 21-1099);

(9) for in-home family support staff, 20 percent of the median wage for nursing aide (SOC code 31-1012); 30 percent of the median wage for community social service specialist (SOC code 21-1099); 40 percent of the median wage for social and human services aide (SOC code 21-1093); and ten percent of the median wage for psychiatric technician (SOC code 29-2053);

(10) for individualized home supports services staff, 40 percent of the median wage for community social service specialist (SOC code 21-1099); 50 percent of the median wage for social and human services aide (SOC code 21-1093); and ten percent of the median wage for psychiatric technician (SOC code 29-2053);

(11) for independent living skills staff, 40 percent of the median wage for community social service specialist (SOC code 21-1099); 50 percent of the median wage for social and human services aide (SOC code 21-1093); and ten percent of the median wage for psychiatric technician (SOC code 29-2053);

(12) for independent living skills specialist staff, 100 percent of mental health and substance abuse social worker (SOC code 21-1023);

(13) for supported employment staff, 20 percent of the median wage for nursing assistant (SOC code 31-1014); 20 percent of the median wage for psychiatric technician (SOC code 29-2053); and 60 percent of the median wage for social and human services aide (SOC code 21-1093);

(14) for employment support services staff, 50 percent of the median wage for rehabilitation counselor (SOC code 21-1015); and 50 percent of the median wage for community and social services specialist (SOC code 21-1099);

(15) for employment exploration services staff, 50 percent of the median wage for rehabilitation counselor (SOC code 21-1015); and 50 percent of the median wage for community and social services specialist (SOC code 21-1099);

(16) for employment development services staff, 50 percent of the median wage for education, guidance, school, and vocational counselors (SOC code 21-1012); and 50 percent of the median wage for community and social services specialist (SOC code 21-1099);

(17) for adult companion staff, 50 percent of the median wage for personal and home care aide (SOC code 39-9021); and 50 percent of the median wage for nursing assistant (SOC code 31-1014);

(18) for night supervision staff, 20 percent of the median wage for home health aide (SOC code 31-1011); 20 percent of the median wage for personal and home health aide (SOC code 39-9021); 20 percent of the median wage for nursing assistant (SOC code 31-1014); 20 percent of the median wage for psychiatric technician (SOC code 29-2053); and 20 percent of the median wage for social and human services aide (SOC code 21-1093);

(19) for respite staff, 50 percent of the median wage for personal and home care aide (SOC code 39-9021); and 50 percent of the median wage for nursing assistant (SOC code 31-1014);

(20) for personal support staff, 50 percent of the median wage for personal and home care aide (SOC code 39-9021); and 50 percent of the median wage for nursing assistant (SOC code 31-1014);

(21) for supervisory staff, 100 percent of the median wage for community and social services specialist (SOC code 21-1099), with the exception of the supervisor of behavior professional, behavior analyst, and behavior specialists, which is 100 percent of the median wage for clinical counseling and school psychologist (SOC code 19-3031);

(22) for registered nurse staff, 100 percent of the median wage for registered nurses (SOC code 29-1141); and

(23) for licensed practical nurse staff, 100 percent of the median wage for licensed practical nurses (SOC code 29-2061).

(b) The commissioner shall adjust the base wage index in paragraph (j) with a competitive workforce factor of 4.7 percent to provide increased compensation to direct care staff. A provider shall use the additional revenue from the competitive workforce factor to increase wages for or to improve benefits provided to direct care staff.

(c) Beginning February 1, 2021, and every two years thereafter, the commissioner shall report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over health and human services policy and finance an analysis of the competitive workforce factor. The report shall include recommendations to adjust the competitive workforce factor using (1) the most recently available wage data by SOC code of the weighted average wage for direct care staff for residential services and direct care staff for day services; (2) the most recently available wage data by SOC code of the weighted average wage of comparable occupations; and (3) labor market data as required under subdivision 10a, paragraph (g). The commissioner shall not recommend in any biennial report an increase or decrease of the competitive workforce factor by more than two percentage points from the current value. If, after a biennial analysis for the next report, the competitive workforce factor is less than or equal to zero, the commissioner shall recommend a competitive workforce factor of zero.

~~(b)~~ (d) Component values for residential support services are:

(1) supervisory span of control ratio: 11 percent;

(2) employee vacation, sick, and training allowance ratio: 8.71 percent;

(3) employee-related cost ratio: 23.6 percent;

(4) general administrative support ratio: 13.25 percent;

(5) program-related expense ratio: 1.3 percent; and

(6) absence and utilization factor ratio: 3.9 percent.

~~(c)~~ (e) Component values for family foster care are:

(1) supervisory span of control ratio: 11 percent;

(2) employee vacation, sick, and training allowance ratio: 8.71 percent;

(3) employee-related cost ratio: 23.6 percent;

(4) general administrative support ratio: 3.3 percent;

(5) program-related expense ratio: 1.3 percent; and

(6) absence factor: 1.7 percent.

~~(d)~~ (f) Component values for day services for all services are:

(1) supervisory span of control ratio: 11 percent;

(2) employee vacation, sick, and training allowance ratio: 8.71 percent;

(3) employee-related cost ratio: 23.6 percent;

(4) program plan support ratio: 5.6 percent;

(5) client programming and support ratio: ten percent;

(6) general administrative support ratio: 13.25 percent;

(7) program-related expense ratio: 1.8 percent; and

(8) absence and utilization factor ratio: 9.4 percent.

~~(e)~~ (g) Component values for unit-based services with programming are:

(1) supervisory span of control ratio: 11 percent;

(2) employee vacation, sick, and training allowance ratio: 8.71 percent;

(3) employee-related cost ratio: 23.6 percent;

(4) program plan supports ratio: 15.5 percent;

(5) client programming and supports ratio: 4.7 percent;

(6) general administrative support ratio: 13.25 percent;

(7) program-related expense ratio: 6.1 percent; and

(8) absence and utilization factor ratio: 3.9 percent.

~~(f)~~ (h) Component values for unit-based services without programming except respite are:

(1) supervisory span of control ratio: 11 percent;

(2) employee vacation, sick, and training allowance ratio: 8.71 percent;

(3) employee-related cost ratio: 23.6 percent;

(4) program plan support ratio: 7.0 percent;

(5) client programming and support ratio: 2.3 percent;

(6) general administrative support ratio: 13.25 percent;

(7) program-related expense ratio: 2.9 percent; and

(8) absence and utilization factor ratio: 3.9 percent.

~~(g)~~ (i) Component values for unit-based services without programming for respite are:

(1) supervisory span of control ratio: 11 percent;

(2) employee vacation, sick, and training allowance ratio: 8.71 percent;

(3) employee-related cost ratio: 23.6 percent;

(4) general administrative support ratio: 13.25 percent;

(5) program-related expense ratio: 2.9 percent; and

(6) absence and utilization factor ratio: 3.9 percent.

~~(h) On July 1, 2017, the commissioner shall update the base wage index in paragraph (a) based on the wage data by standard occupational code (SOC) from the Bureau of Labor Statistics available on December 31, 2016. The commissioner shall publish these updated values and load them into the rate management system.~~ (j) On July 1, 2022, and every ~~five~~ two years thereafter, the commissioner shall update the base wage index in paragraph (a) based on ~~the most recently available~~ wage data by SOC from the Bureau of Labor Statistics available 30 months and one day prior to the scheduled update. The commissioner shall publish these updated values and load them into the rate management system.

~~(i) On July 1, 2017, the commissioner shall update the framework components in paragraph (d), clause (5); paragraph (e), clause (5); and paragraph (f), clause (5); subdivision 6, clauses (8) and (9); and subdivision 7, clauses (10), (16), and (17), for changes in the Consumer Price Index. The commissioner will adjust these values higher or lower by the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index-All Items, United States city average (CPI-U) from January 1, 2014, to January 1, 2017. The commissioner shall publish these updated values and load them into the rate management system.~~ (k) On July 1, 2022, and every ~~five~~ two years thereafter, the commissioner shall update the framework components in paragraph ~~(d)~~ (f), clause (5); paragraph ~~(e)~~ (g), clause (5); ~~and~~ paragraph ~~(f)~~ (h), clause (5); subdivision 6, clauses (8) and (9); and subdivision 7, clauses (10), (16), and (17), for changes in the Consumer Price Index. The commissioner shall adjust these values higher or lower by the percentage change in the CPI-U from the date of the previous update to the ~~date of the~~ data ~~most recently~~ available 30 months and one day prior to the scheduled update. The commissioner shall publish these updated values and load them into the rate management system.

(l) Upon the implementation of automatic inflation adjustments under paragraphs (j) and (k), rate adjustments authorized under section 256B.439, subdivision 7; Laws 2013, chapter 108, article 7, section 60; and Laws 2014, chapter 312, article 27, section 75, shall be removed from service rates calculated under this section.

(m) Any rate adjustments applied to the service rates calculated under this section outside of the cost components and rate methodology specified in this section shall be removed from rate calculations upon implementation of automatic inflation adjustments under paragraphs (j) and (k).

~~(j)~~ (n) In this subdivision, if Bureau of Labor Statistics occupational codes or Consumer Price Index items are unavailable in the future, the commissioner shall recommend to the legislature codes or items to update and replace missing component values.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2021, or upon federal approval, whichever is later, except the new paragraph (b) is effective January 1, 2020, or upon federal approval, whichever is later. The commissioner of human services shall notify the revisor of statutes when federal approval is obtained.

Sec. 38. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.4914, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

Subd. 10. **Updating payment values and additional information.** ~~(a) From January 1, 2014, through December 31, 2017, the commissioner shall develop and implement uniform procedures to refine terms and adjust values used to calculate payment rates in this section.~~

~~(b)~~ (a) No later than July 1, 2014, the commissioner shall, within available resources, begin to conduct research and gather data and information from existing state systems or other outside sources on the following items:

(1) differences in the underlying cost to provide services and care across the state; and

(2) mileage, vehicle type, lift requirements, incidents of individual and shared rides, and units of transportation for all day services, which must be collected from providers using the rate management worksheet and entered into the rates management system; and

(3) the distinct underlying costs for services provided by a license holder under sections 245D.05, 245D.06, 245D.07, 245D.071, 245D.081, and 245D.09, and for services provided by a license holder certified under section 245D.33.

~~(c) Beginning January 1, 2014, through December 31, 2018, using a statistically valid set of rates management system data, the commissioner, in consultation with stakeholders, shall analyze for each service the average difference in the rate on December 31, 2013, and the framework rate at the individual, provider, lead agency, and state levels. The commissioner shall issue semiannual reports to the stakeholders on the difference in rates by service and by county during the banding period under section 256B.4913, subdivision 4a. The commissioner shall issue the first report by October 1, 2014, and the final report shall be issued by December 31, 2018.~~

~~(d)~~ (b) No later than July 1, 2014, the commissioner, in consultation with stakeholders, shall begin the review and evaluation of the following values already in subdivisions ~~6~~ 5 to 9, or issues that impact all services, including, but not limited to:

(1) values for transportation rates;

(2) values for services where monitoring technology replaces staff time;

(3) values for indirect services;

(4) values for nursing;

(5) values for the facility use rate in day services, and the weightings used in the day service ratios and adjustments to those weightings;

(6) values for workers' compensation as part of employee-related expenses;

(7) values for unemployment insurance as part of employee-related expenses;

(8) direct care workforce labor market measures;

(9) any changes in state or federal law with a direct impact on the underlying cost of providing home and community-based services; ~~and~~

~~(9)~~ (10) outcome measures, determined by the commissioner, for home and community-based services rates determined under this section~~.~~; and

(11) different competitive workforce factors by service.

~~(e)~~ (c) The commissioner shall report to the chairs and the ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over health and human services policy and finance with the information and data gathered under paragraphs ~~(b) to (d)~~ (a) and (b) on ~~the following dates:~~

~~(1) January 15, 2015, with preliminary results and data;~~

~~(2) January 15, 2016, with a status implementation update, and additional data and summary information;~~

~~(3) January 15, 2017, with the full report; and~~

~~(4)~~ January 15, ~~2020~~ 2021, with another full report, and a full report once every four years thereafter.

~~(f) The commissioner shall implement a regional adjustment factor to all rate calculations in subdivisions 6 to 9, effective no later than January 1, 2015.~~ (d) Beginning ~~July 1, 2017~~ January 1, 2022, the commissioner shall renew analysis and implement changes to the regional adjustment factors ~~when adjustments required under subdivision 5, paragraph (h), occur~~ once every six years. Prior to implementation, the commissioner shall consult with stakeholders on the methodology to calculate the adjustment.

~~(g)~~ (e) The commissioner shall provide a public notice via LISTSERV in October of each year beginning October 1, 2014, containing information detailing legislatively approved changes in:

(1) calculation values including derived wage rates and related employee and administrative factors;

(2) service utilization;

(3) county and tribal allocation changes; and

(4) information on adjustments made to calculation values and the timing of those adjustments.

The information in this notice must be effective January 1 of the following year.

~~(h)~~ (f) When the available shared staffing hours in a residential setting are insufficient to meet the needs of an individual who enrolled in residential services after January 1, 2014, or insufficient to meet the needs of an individual with a service agreement adjustment described in section 256B.4913, subdivision 4a, paragraph (f), then individual staffing hours shall be used.

~~(i) The commissioner shall study the underlying cost of absence and utilization for day services. Based on the commissioner's evaluation of the data collected under this paragraph, the commissioner shall make recommendations to the legislature by January 15, 2018, for changes, if any, to the absence and utilization factor ratio component value for day services.~~

~~(j)~~ (g) Beginning July 1, 2017, the commissioner shall collect transportation and trip information for all day services through the rates management system.

(h) The commissioner, in consultation with stakeholders, shall study value-based models and outcome-based payment strategies for fee-for-service home and community-based services and report to the legislative committees with jurisdiction over the disability waiver rate system by October 1, 2020, with recommended strategies to improve the quality, efficiency, and effectiveness of services.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 39. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.4914, subdivision 10a, is amended to read:

Subd. 10a. **Reporting and analysis of cost data.** (a) The commissioner must ensure that wage values and component values in subdivisions 5 to 9 reflect the cost to provide the service. As determined by the commissioner, in consultation with stakeholders identified in section 256B.4913, subdivision 5, a provider enrolled to provide services with rates determined under this section must submit requested cost data to the commissioner to support research on the cost of providing services that have rates determined by the disability waiver rates system. Requested cost data may include, but is not limited to:

(1) worker wage costs;

(2) benefits paid;

(3) supervisor wage costs;

(4) executive wage costs;

(5) vacation, sick, and training time paid;

(6) taxes, workers' compensation, and unemployment insurance costs paid;

(7) administrative costs paid;

(8) program costs paid;

(9) transportation costs paid;

(10) vacancy rates; and

(11) other data relating to costs required to provide services requested by the commissioner.

(b) At least once in any five-year period, a provider must submit cost data for a fiscal year that ended not more than 18 months prior to the submission date. The commissioner shall provide each provider a 90-day notice prior to its submission due date. If a provider fails to submit required reporting data, the commissioner shall provide notice to providers that have not provided required data 30 days after the required submission date, and a second notice for providers who have not provided required data 60 days after the required submission date. The commissioner shall temporarily suspend payments to the provider if cost data is not received 90 days after the required submission date. Withheld payments shall be made once data is received by the commissioner.

(c) The commissioner shall conduct a random validation of data submitted under paragraph (a) to ensure data accuracy. The commissioner shall analyze cost documentation in paragraph (a) and provide recommendations for adjustments to cost components.

(d) The commissioner shall analyze cost documentation in paragraph (a) and, in consultation with stakeholders identified in section 256B.4913, subdivision 5, may submit recommendations on component values and inflationary factor adjustments to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over human services every four years beginning January 1, ~~2020~~ 2021. The commissioner shall make recommendations in conjunction with reports submitted to the legislature according to subdivision 10, paragraph ~~(c)~~ (c). The commissioner shall release cost data in an aggregate form, and cost data from individual providers shall not be released except as provided for in current law.

(e) The commissioner, in consultation with stakeholders identified in section 256B.4913, subdivision 5, shall develop and implement a process for providing training and technical assistance necessary to support provider submission of cost documentation required under paragraph (a).

(f) By December 31, 2020, providers paid with rates calculated under subdivision 5, paragraph (b), shall identify additional revenues from the competitive workforce factor and

prepare a written distribution plan for the revenues. A provider shall make the provider's distribution plan available and accessible to all direct care staff for a minimum of one calendar year. Upon request, a provider shall submit the written distribution plan to the commissioner.

(g) Providers enrolled to provide services with rates determined under section 256B.4914, subdivision 3, shall submit labor market data to the commissioner annually on or before November 1, including but not limited to:

(1) number of direct care staff;

(2) wages of direct care staff;

(3) overtime wages of direct care staff;

(4) hours worked by direct care staff;

(5) overtime hours worked by direct care staff;

(6) benefits provided to direct care staff;

(7) direct care staff job vacancies; and

(8) direct care staff retention rates.

(h) The commissioner shall publish annual reports on provider and state-level labor market data, including but not limited to the data obtained under paragraph (g).

(i) The commissioner shall temporarily suspend payments to the provider if data requested under paragraph (g) is not received 90 days after the required submission date. Withheld payments shall be made once data is received by the commissioner.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment except paragraph (g) is effective November 1, 2019, and paragraph (h) is effective February 1, 2020.

Sec. 40. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.493, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Commissioner's duties; report.** The commissioner of human services has the authority to manage statewide licensed corporate foster care or community residential settings capacity, including the reduction and realignment of licensed capacity of a current foster care or community residential setting to accomplish the consolidation or closure of settings. The commissioner shall implement a program for planned closure of licensed corporate adult foster care or community residential settings, necessary as a preferred method to: (1) respond to the informed decisions of those individuals who want to move out of these

settings into other types of community settings; and (2) achieve ~~necessary budgetary savings~~ the reduction of statewide licensed capacity required in section 245A.03, subdivision 7, paragraphs (c) and (d). Closure determinations by the commissioner are final and not subject to appeal.

Sec. 41. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.5013, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Variable rate adjustments.** (a) ~~For rate years beginning on or after October 1, 2000,~~ When there is a documented increase in the needs of a current ICF/DD recipient, the county of financial responsibility may recommend a variable rate to enable the facility to meet the individual's increased needs. Variable rate adjustments made under this subdivision replace payments for persons with special needs for crisis intervention services under section 256B.501, subdivision 8a. ~~Effective July 1, 2003, facilities with a base rate above the 50th percentile of the statewide average reimbursement rate for a Class A facility or Class B facility, whichever matches the facility licensure, are not eligible for a variable rate adjustment. Variable rate adjustments may not exceed a 12-month period, except when approved for purposes established in paragraph (b), clause (1).~~ Once approved, variable rate adjustments must continue to remain in place unless there is an identified change in need. A review of needed resources must be done at the time of the individual's annual support plan meeting. A request to adjust the resources of the individual must be submitted if any change in need is identified. Variable rate adjustments approved solely on the basis of changes on a developmental disabilities screening document will end June 30, 2002.

(b) The county of financial responsibility must act on a variable rate request within 30 days and notify the initiator of the request of the county's recommendation in writing.

~~(b)~~ (c) A variable rate may be recommended by the county of financial responsibility for increased needs in the following situations:

(1) a need for resources due to an individual's full or partial retirement from participation in a day training and habilitation service when the individual: (i) has reached the age of 65 or has a change in health condition that makes it difficult for the person to participate in day training and habilitation services over an extended period of time because it is medically contraindicated; and (ii) has expressed a desire for change through the developmental disability screening process under section 256B.092;

(2) a need for additional resources for intensive short-term programming which is necessary prior to an individual's discharge to a less restrictive, more integrated setting;

(3) a demonstrated medical need that significantly impacts the type or amount of services needed by the individual; ~~or~~

(4) a demonstrated behavioral or cognitive need that significantly impacts the type or amount of services needed by the individual~~.~~; or

~~(c) The county of financial responsibility must justify the purpose, the projected length of time, and the additional funding needed for the facility to meet the needs of the individual.~~

~~(d) The facility shall provide an annual report to the county case manager on the use of the variable rate funds and the status of the individual on whose behalf the funds were approved. The county case manager will forward the facility's report with a recommendation to the commissioner to approve or disapprove a continuation of the variable rate.~~

~~(e) Funds made available through the variable rate process that are not used by the facility to meet the needs of the individual for whom they were approved shall be returned to the state.~~

(5) a demonstrated increased need for staff assistance, changes in the type of staff credentials needed, or a need for expert consultation based on assessments conducted prior to the annual support plan meeting.

(d) Variable rate requests must include the following information:

(1) the service needs change;

(2) the variable rate requested and the difference from the current rate;

(3) a basis for the underlying costs used for the variable rate and any accompanying documentation; and

(4) documentation of the expected outcomes to be achieved and the frequency of progress monitoring associated with the rate increase.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2019, or upon federal approval, whichever is later. The commissioner of human services shall inform the revisor of statutes when federal approval is obtained.

Sec. 42. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.5013, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Commissioner's responsibilities.** The commissioner shall:

(1) make a determination to approve, deny, or modify a request for a variable rate adjustment within 30 days of the receipt of the completed application;

(2) notify the ICF/DD facility and county case manager of the ~~duration and conditions of variable rate adjustment approvals~~ determination; and

(3) modify MMIS II service agreements to reimburse ICF/DD facilities for approved variable rates.

Sec. 43. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.5015, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Services during the day.** (a) Services during the day, as defined in section 256B.501, but excluding day training and habilitation services, shall be paid as a pass-through payment ~~no later than January 1, 2004~~. The commissioner shall establish rates for these services, other than day training and habilitation services, at ~~levels that do not exceed 75~~ 100 percent of a recipient's day training and habilitation service costs prior to the service change.

(b) An individual qualifies for services during the day under paragraph (a) if:

(1) through consultation with the individual and their support team or interdisciplinary team, it has been determined that the individual's needs can best be met through partial or full retirement from:

(i) participation in a day training and habilitation service; or

(ii) the use of services during the day in the individual's home environment; and

(2) in consultation with the individual and their support team or interdisciplinary team, an individualized plan has been developed with designated outcomes that:

(i) addresses the support needs and desires contained in the person-centered plan or individual support plan; and

(ii) includes goals that focus on community integration as appropriate for the individual.

(c) When establishing a rate for these services, the commissioner shall also consider an individual recipient's needs as identified in the ~~individualized service~~ individual support plan and the person's need for active treatment as defined under federal regulations. The pass-through payments for services during the day shall be paid separately by the commissioner and shall not be included in the computation of the ICF/DD facility total payment rate.

Sec. 44. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.85, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Eligibility.** (a) CFSS is available to a person who meets one of the following:

(1) is an enrollee of medical assistance as determined under section 256B.055, 256B.056, or 256B.057, subdivisions 5 and 9;

(2) is a participant in the alternative care program under section 256B.0913;

(3) is a waiver participant as defined under section 256B.0915, 256B.092, 256B.093, or 256B.49; or

(4) has medical services identified in a person's individualized education program and is eligible for services as determined in section 256B.0625, subdivision 26.

(b) In addition to meeting the eligibility criteria in paragraph (a), a person must also meet all of the following:

(1) based on an assessment under section 256B.0911, require assistance and be determined dependent in one critical activity of daily living or one Level I behavior ~~based on assessment under section 256B.0911~~ or have a behavior that shows increased vulnerability due to cognitive deficits or socially inappropriate behavior that requires assistance at least four times per week; and

(2) is not a participant under a family support grant under section 252.32.

(c) A pregnant woman eligible for medical assistance under section 256B.055, subdivision 6, is eligible for CFSS without federal financial participation if the woman: (1) is eligible for CFSS under paragraphs (a) and (b); and (2) does not meet institutional level of care, as determined under section 256B.0911.

Sec. 45. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.85, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **Determination of CFSS service authorization amount.** (a) All community first services and supports must be authorized by the commissioner or the commissioner's designee before services begin. The authorization for CFSS must be completed as soon as possible following an assessment but no later than 40 calendar days from the date of the assessment.

(b) The amount of CFSS authorized must be based on the participant's home care rating described in paragraphs (d) and (e) and any additional service units for which the participant qualifies as described in paragraph (f).

(c) The home care rating shall be determined by the commissioner or the commissioner's designee based on information submitted to the commissioner identifying the following for a participant:

(1) the total number of dependencies of activities of daily living;

(2) the presence of complex health-related needs; and

(3) the presence of Level I behavior.

(d) The methodology to determine the total service units for CFSS for each home care rating is based on the median paid units per day for each home care rating from fiscal year 2007 data for the PCA program.

(e) Each home care rating is designated by the letters ~~P~~ LT through Z and EN and has the following base number of service units assigned:

(1) ~~P~~ LT home care rating requires ~~Level I behavior or one to three dependencies in ADLs and qualifies the person for five service units~~ the presence of increased vulnerability due to cognitive deficits and socially inappropriate behavior that requires assistance at least four times per week, the presence of a Level I behavior, or a dependency in one critical activity of daily living, and qualifies the person for two service units;

(2) P home care rating requires two to three dependencies in ADLs, one of which must be a critical ADL, and qualifies the person for five services units;

(3) Q home care rating requires Level I behavior and ~~one~~ two to three dependencies in ADLs, one of which must be a critical ADL, and qualifies the person for six service units;

~~(3)~~ (4) R home care rating requires a complex health-related need and ~~one~~ two to three dependencies in ADLs, one of which must be a critical ADL, and qualifies the person for seven service units;

~~(4)~~ (5) S home care rating requires four to six dependencies in ADLs, one of which must be a critical ADL, and qualifies the person for ten service units;

~~(5)~~ (6) T home care rating requires Level I behavior and four to six dependencies in ADLs ~~and Level I behavior~~, one of which must be a critical ADL, and qualifies the person for 11 service units;

~~(6)~~ (7) U home care rating requires four to six dependencies in ADLs, one of which must be a critical ADL, and a complex health-related need and qualifies the person for 14 service units;

~~(7)~~ (8) V home care rating requires seven to eight dependencies in ADLs and qualifies the person for 17 service units;

~~(8)~~ (9) W home care rating requires seven to eight dependencies in ADLs and Level I behavior and qualifies the person for 20 service units;

~~(9)~~ (10) Z home care rating requires seven to eight dependencies in ADLs and a complex health-related need and qualifies the person for 30 service units; and

~~(10)~~ (11) EN home care rating includes ventilator dependency as defined in section 256B.0651, subdivision 1, paragraph (g). A person who meets the definition of ventilator-dependent and the EN home care rating and utilize a combination of CFSS and home care nursing services is limited to a total of 96 service units per day for those services in combination. Additional units may be authorized when a person's assessment indicates a need for two staff to perform activities. Additional time is limited to 16 service units per day.

(f) Additional service units are provided through the assessment and identification of the following:

(1) 30 additional minutes per day for a dependency in each critical activity of daily living;

(2) 30 additional minutes per day for each complex health-related need; and

(3) 30 additional minutes per day when the behavior requires assistance at least four times per week for one or more of the following behaviors:

(i) level I behavior;

(ii) increased vulnerability due to cognitive deficits or socially inappropriate behavior; or

(iii) increased need for assistance for participants who are verbally aggressive or resistive to care so that the time needed to perform activities of daily living is increased.

(g) The service budget for budget model participants shall be based on:

(1) assessed units as determined by the home care rating; and

(2) an adjustment needed for administrative expenses.

Sec. 46. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256C.23, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 7. **Family and community intervener.** "Family and community intervener" means a paraprofessional, specifically trained in deafblindness, who works one-on-one with a child who is deafblind to provide critical connections to people and the environment.

Sec. 47. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256C.261, is amended to read:

256C.261 SERVICES FOR PERSONS WHO ARE DEAFBLIND.

(a) The commissioner of human services shall use at least 35 percent of the deafblind services biennial base level grant funding for services and other supports for a child who is deafblind and the child's family. The commissioner shall use at least 25 percent of the deafblind services biennial base level grant funding for services and other supports for an adult who is deafblind.

The commissioner shall award grants for the purposes of:

(1) providing services and supports to persons who are deafblind; and

(2) developing and providing training to counties and the network of senior citizen service providers. The purpose of the training grants is to teach counties how to use existing programs that capture federal financial participation to meet the needs of eligible persons who are deafblind and to build capacity of senior service programs to meet the needs of seniors with a dual sensory hearing and vision loss.

(b) The commissioner may make grants:

(1) for services and training provided by organizations; and

(2) to develop and administer consumer-directed services.

(c) Consumer-directed services shall be provided in whole by grant-funded providers. The Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Services Division's regional service centers shall not provide any aspect of a grant-funded consumer-directed services program.

(d) Any entity that is able to satisfy the grant criteria is eligible to receive a grant under paragraph (a).

(e) Deafblind service providers may, but are not required to, provide intervenor services as part of the service package provided with grant funds under this section. Intervener services include services provided by a family and community intervener as described in paragraph (f).

(f) The family and community intervener, as defined in section 256C.23, subdivision 7, provides services to open channels of communication between the child and others; facilitate the development or use of receptive and expressive communication skills by the child; and develop and maintain a trusting, interactive relationship that promotes social and emotional well-being. The family and community intervener also provides access to information and the environment, and facilitates opportunities for learning and development. A family and

community intervener must have specific training in deafblindness, building language and communication skills, and intervention strategies.

Sec. 48. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256I.03, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **Supplementary services.** "Supplementary services" means housing support services provided to individuals in addition to room and board including, but not limited to, oversight and up to 24-hour supervision, medication reminders, assistance with transportation, arranging for meetings and appointments, and arranging for medical and social services, and services identified in section 256I.03, subdivision 12.

Sec. 49. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256I.04, subdivision 2b, is amended to read:

Subd. 2b. **Housing support agreements.** (a) Agreements between agencies and providers of housing support must be in writing on a form developed and approved by the commissioner and must specify the name and address under which the establishment subject to the agreement does business and under which the establishment, or service provider, if different from the group residential housing establishment, is licensed by the Department of Health or the Department of Human Services; the specific license or registration from the Department of Health or the Department of Human Services held by the provider and the number of beds subject to that license; the address of the location or locations at which group residential housing is provided under this agreement; the per diem and monthly rates that are to be paid from housing support funds for each eligible resident at each location; the number of beds at each location which are subject to the agreement; whether the license holder is a not-for-profit corporation under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code; and a statement that the agreement is subject to the provisions of sections 256I.01 to 256I.06 and subject to any changes to those sections.

(b) Providers are required to verify the following minimum requirements in the agreement:

(1) current license or registration, including authorization if managing or monitoring medications;

(2) all staff who have direct contact with recipients meet the staff qualifications;

(3) the provision of housing support;

(4) the provision of supplementary services, if applicable;

(5) reports of adverse events, including recipient death or serious injury; ~~and~~

(6) submission of residency requirements that could result in recipient eviction.; and

(7) confirmation that the provider will not limit or restrict the number of hours an applicant or recipient chooses to be employed, as specified in subdivision 5.

(c) Agreements may be terminated with or without cause by the commissioner, the agency, or the provider with two calendar months prior notice. The commissioner may immediately terminate an agreement under subdivision 2d.

Sec. 50. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256I.04, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 2h. **Required supplementary services.** Providers of supplementary services shall ensure that recipients have, at a minimum, assistance with services as identified in the recipient's professional statement of need under section 256I.03, subdivision 12. Providers of supplementary services shall maintain case notes with the date and description of services provided to individual recipients.

Sec. 51. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256I.04, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 5. **Employment.** A provider is prohibited from limiting or restricting the number of hours an applicant or recipient is employed.

Sec. 52. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256I.05, subdivision 1r, is amended to read:

Subd. 1r. **Supplemental rate; Anoka County.** (a) Notwithstanding the provisions in this section, a county agency shall negotiate a supplemental rate for 42 beds in addition to the rate specified in subdivision 1, not to exceed the maximum rate allowed under subdivision 1a, including any legislatively authorized inflationary adjustments, for a housing support provider that is located in Anoka County and provides emergency housing on the former Anoka Regional Treatment Center campus.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions in this section, a county agency shall negotiate a supplemental rate for six beds in addition to the rate specified in subdivision 1, not to exceed the maximum rate allowed under subdivision 1a, including any legislatively authorized inflationary adjustments, for a housing support provider located in Anoka County that operates a 12-bed facility and provides room and board and supplementary services to individuals 18 to 24 years of age.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2019.

Sec. 53. **[268A.061] HOME AND COMMUNITY-BASED PROVIDERS.**

Subdivision 1. **Home and community-based provider eligibility for payments.** Notwithstanding Minnesota Rules, part 3300.5060, subparts 14 to 16, the commissioner shall make payments for job-related services, vocational adjustment training, and vocational evaluation services to any home and community-based services provider licensed as an intensive support services provider under chapter 245D with whom the commissioner has signed a limited-use vendor operating agreement.

Subd. 2. **Limited-use agreements with home and community-based providers.** A limited-use vendor operating agreement under this section may not limit the dollar amount the provider may receive annually. The limited-use vendor operating agreement available under this section must specify at a minimum that payments under the agreement are limited to vocational rehabilitation services provided to individuals to whom the provider has previously provided day services as described under section 245D.03, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), clause (4), or any of the employment services described under section 245D.03, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), clauses (5) to (7).

Subd. 3. **Required limited-use agreements.** The commissioner must enter into a limited-use vendor operating agreement that meets at least the minimal requirements of subdivision 2 with a provider eligible under subdivision 1 if:

(1) the home and community-based provider is not a current vocational rehabilitation services provider;

(2) each individual to be served under the limited-use vendor operating agreement was receiving day or employment services from the provider immediately prior to the provider serving the individual under the terms of the agreement; and

(3) each individual to be served under the limited-use vendor operating agreement has made an informed choice to remain with the provider.

Sec. 54. Laws 2017, First Special Session chapter 6, article 1, section 44, is amended to read:

Sec. 44. **EXPANSION OF CONSUMER-DIRECTED COMMUNITY SUPPORTS BUDGET METHODOLOGY EXCEPTION.**

(a) No later than September 30, 2017, if necessary, the commissioner of human services shall submit an amendment to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for the home and community-based services waivers authorized under Minnesota Statutes, sections

256B.092 and 256B.49, to expand the exception to the consumer-directed community supports budget methodology under Laws 2015, chapter 71, article 7, section 54, to provide up to 30 percent more funds for either:

(1) consumer-directed community supports participants who have a coordinated service and support plan which identifies the need for an increased amount of services or supports under consumer-directed community supports than the amount they are currently receiving under the consumer-directed community supports budget methodology:

(i) to increase the amount of time a person works or otherwise improves employment opportunities;

(ii) to plan a transition to, move to, or live in a setting described in Minnesota Statutes, section 256D.44, subdivision 5, ~~paragraph (f), clause (1), item (ii), or~~ paragraph (g), clause (1), item (iii); or

(iii) to develop and implement a positive behavior support plan; or

(2) home and community-based waiver participants who are currently using licensed providers for (i) employment supports or services during the day; or (ii) residential services, either of which cost more annually than the person would spend under a consumer-directed community supports plan for any or all of the supports needed to meet the goals identified in paragraph (a), clause (1), items (i), (ii), and (iii).

(b) The exception under paragraph (a), clause (1), is limited to those persons who can demonstrate that they will have to discontinue using consumer-directed community supports and accept other non-self-directed waiver services because their supports needed for the goals described in paragraph (a), clause (1), items (i), (ii), and (iii), cannot be met within the consumer-directed community supports budget limits.

(c) The exception under paragraph (a), clause (2), is limited to those persons who can demonstrate that, upon choosing to become a consumer-directed community supports participant, the total cost of services, including the exception, will be less than the cost of current waiver services.

Sec. 55. Laws 2017, First Special Session chapter 6, article 1, section 45, is amended to read:

Sec. 45. **CONSUMER-DIRECTED COMMUNITY SUPPORTS BUDGET METHODOLOGY ~~EXCEPTION FOR PERSONS LEAVING INSTITUTIONS AND CRISIS RESIDENTIAL SETTINGS~~.**

Subdivision 1. **Exception for persons leaving institutions and crisis residential settings.** (a) By September 30, 2017, the commissioner shall establish an institutional and crisis bed consumer-directed community supports budget exception process in the home and community-based services waivers under Minnesota Statutes, sections 256B.092 and 256B.49. This budget exception process shall be available for any individual who:

(1) is not offered available and appropriate services within 60 days since approval for discharge from the individual's current institutional setting; and

(2) requires services that are more expensive than appropriate services provided in a noninstitutional setting using the consumer-directed community supports option.

(b) Institutional settings for purposes of this exception include intermediate care facilities for persons with developmental disabilities; nursing facilities; acute care hospitals; Anoka Metro Regional Treatment Center; Minnesota Security Hospital; and crisis beds. The budget exception shall be limited to no more than the amount of appropriate services provided in a noninstitutional setting as determined by the lead agency managing the individual's home and community-based services waiver. The lead agency shall notify the Department of Human Services of the budget exception.

Subd. 2. **Shared services.** (a) Medical assistance payments for shared services under consumer-directed community supports are limited to this subdivision.

(b) For purposes of this subdivision, "shared services" means services provided at the same time by the same direct care worker for individuals who have entered into an agreement to share consumer-directed community support services.

(c) Shared services may include services in the personal assistance category as outlined in the consumer-directed community supports community support plan and shared services agreement, except:

(1) services for more than three individuals provided by one worker at one time;

(2) use of more than one worker for the shared services; and

(3) a child care program licensed under chapter 245A or operated by a local school district or private school.

(d) The individuals or, as needed, their representatives shall develop the plan for shared services when developing or amending the consumer-directed community supports plan, and must follow the consumer-directed community supports process for approval of the plan by the lead agency. The plan for shared services in an individual's consumer-directed community supports plan shall include the intention to utilize shared services based on individuals' needs and preferences.

(e) Individuals sharing services must use the same financial management services provider.

(f) Individuals whose consumer-directed community supports community support plans include the intention to utilize shared services must also jointly develop, with the support of their representatives as needed, a shared services agreement. This agreement must include:

(1) the names of the individuals receiving shared services;

(2) the individuals' representative, if identified in their consumer-directed community supports plans, and their duties;

(3) the names of the case managers;

(4) the financial management services provider;

(5) the shared services that must be provided;

(6) the schedule for shared services;

(7) the location where shared services must be provided;

(8) the training specific to each individual served;

(9) the training specific to providing shared services to the individuals identified in the agreement;

(10) instructions to follow all required documentation for time and services provided;

(11) a contingency plan for each of the individuals that accounts for service provision and billing in the absence of one of the individuals in a shared services setting due to illness or other circumstances;

(12) signatures of all parties involved in the shared services; and

(13) agreement by each of the individuals who are sharing services on the number of shared hours for services provided.

(g) Any individual or any individual's representative may withdraw from participating in a shared services agreement at any time.

(h) The lead agency for each individual must authorize the use of the shared services option based on the criteria that the shared service is appropriate to meet the needs, health, and safety of each individual for whom they provide case management or care coordination.

(i) Nothing in this subdivision must be construed to reduce the total authorized consumer-directed community supports budget for an individual.

(j) No later than September 30, 2019, the commissioner of human services shall:

(1) submit an amendment to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for the home and community-based services waivers authorized under Minnesota Statutes, sections 256B.092 and 256B.49, to allow for a shared services option under consumer-directed community supports; and

(2) with stakeholder input, develop guidance for shared services in consumer-directed community-supports within the Community Based Services Manual. Guidance must include:

(i) recommendations for negotiating payment for one-to-two and one-to-three services; and

(ii) a template of the shared services agreement.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective October 1, 2019, or upon federal approval, whichever is later, except for subdivision 2, paragraph (j), which is effective the day following final enactment. The commissioner of human services shall notify the revisor of statutes when federal approval is obtained.

Sec. 56. **DAY TRAINING AND HABILITATION DISABILITY WAIVER RATE SYSTEM TRANSITION GRANTS.**

(a) The commissioner of human services shall establish annual grants to day training and habilitation providers that are projected to experience a funding gap upon the full implementation of Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.4914.

(b) In order to be eligible for a grant under this section, a day training and habilitation disability waiver provider must:

(1) serve at least 100 waiver service participants;

(2) be projected to receive a reduction in annual revenue from medical assistance for day services during the first year of full implementation of disability waiver rate system

framework rates under Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.4914, of at least 15 percent and at least $300,000 compared to the annual medical assistance revenue for day services the provider received during the last full year during which banded rates under Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.4913, subdivision 4a, were effective; and

(3) agree to develop, submit, and implement a sustainability plan as provided in paragraph

(c) A recipient of a grant under this section must develop a sustainability plan in partnership with the commissioner of human services. The sustainability plan must include:

(1) a review of all the provider's costs and an assessment of whether the provider is implementing available cost-control options appropriately;

(2) a review of all the provider's revenue and an assessment of whether the provider is leveraging available resources appropriately; and

(3) a practical strategy for closing the funding gap described in paragraph (b), clause (2).

(d) The commissioner of human services shall provide technical assistance and financial management advice to grant recipients as they develop and implement their sustainability plans.

(e) In order to be eligible for an annual grant renewal, a grant recipient must demonstrate to the commissioner of human services that it made a good faith effort to close the revenue gap described in paragraph (b), clause (2).

Sec. 57. **DIRECTION TO COMMISSIONER OF HUMAN SERVICES; MNCHOICES 2.0.**

(a) The commissioner of human services must ensure that the MnCHOICES 2.0 assessment and support planning tool incorporates a qualitative approach with open-ended questions and a conversational, culturally sensitive approach to interviewing that captures the assessor's professional judgment based on the person's responses.

(b) If the commissioner of human services convenes a working group or consults with stakeholders for the purposes of modifying the assessment and support planning process or tool, the commissioner must include members of the disability community, including representatives of organizations and individuals involved in assessment and support planning.

Sec. 58. **DIRECTION TO THE COMMISSIONER OF HUMAN SERVICES; CAPITATION PAYMENTS FOR LONG-TERM SERVICES AND SUPPORTS ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES.**

By December 1, 2019, the commissioner of human services shall provide a report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over human services finance and policy proposing a capitated rate to be paid to counties and tribes for long-term care consultation services performed under Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.0911, and supporting activities. The proposed capitated rate shall not include any costs attributable to case management services. The commissioner, in developing the proposal, shall use past estimates of time spent on activities related to long-term care consultation activities. The commissioner's report shall include an explanation of how the commissioner determines the portion of capitated rates paid to health plans attributable to long-term care consultation services. The commissioner's proposal must include a single capitated rate for all populations, but may also include an alternative proposal for different capitated rates for different populations.

Sec. 59. **DIRECTION TO THE COMMISSIONER OF HUMAN SERVICES; BARRIERS TO INDEPENDENT LIVING.**

By December 1, 2019, the commissioner of human services shall submit to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over human services finance and policy a report describing state and federal regulatory barriers, including provisions of the Fair Housing Act, that create barriers to independent living for persons with disabilities.

Sec. 60. **ADULT FOSTER CARE MORATORIUM EXEMPTION.**

An adult foster care setting located in Elk River, Sherburne County, and licensed in 2003 to serve four people is exempt from the moratorium under Minnesota Statutes, section 245A.03, subdivision 7, until July 1, 2020.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2019.

Sec. 61. **DIRECTION TO COMMISSIONER; BI AND CADI WAIVER CUSTOMIZED LIVING SERVICES PROVIDER LOCATED IN HENNEPIN COUNTY.**

(a) The commissioner of human services shall allow a housing with services establishment located in Minneapolis that provides customized living and 24-hour customized living

services for clients enrolled in the brain injury (BI) or community access for disability inclusion (CADI) waiver and had a capacity to serve 66 clients as of July 1, 2017, to transfer service capacity of up to 66 clients to no more than three new housing with services establishments located in Hennepin County.

(b) Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.492, the commissioner shall determine that the new housing with services establishments described under paragraph (a) meet the BI and CADI waiver customized living and 24-hour customized living size limitation exception for clients receiving those services at the new housing with services establishments described under paragraph (a).

Sec. 62. **DIRECTION TO THE COMMISSIONER OF HUMAN SERVICES; PERSONAL CARE ASSISTANCE SERVICES COMPARABILITY WAIVER.**

The commissioner of human services shall submit by July 1, 2019, a waiver request to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to allow people receiving personal care assistance services as of December 31, 2019, to continue their eligibility for personal care assistance services under the personal care assistance service eligibility criteria in effect on December 31, 2019.

Sec. 63. **DIRECTION TO THE COMMISSIONER OF HUMAN SERVICES; TRANSITION PERIOD FOR MODIFIED ELIGIBILITY OF PERSONAL CARE ASSISTANCE.**

(a) Beginning at the latest date permissible under federal law, the modified eligibility criteria under Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.0625, subdivision 19a, and Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.0652, subdivision 6, paragraphs (b) and (d), shall apply on a rolling basis, at the time of annual assessments, to people receiving personal care assistance as of December 31, 2019.

(b) The commissioner shall establish a transition period for people receiving personal care assistance services as of December 31, 2019, who, at the time of the annual assessment described in paragraph (a), are determined to be ineligible for personal care assistance services. Service authorizations for this transition period shall not exceed one year.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2020, or upon federal approval, whichever is later. The commissioner shall notify the revisor of statutes when federal approval is obtained and when personal care assistance services provided under paragraph (b) have expired.

Sec. 64. **DIRECTION TO THE COMMISSIONER; REPORT ON ELIGIBILITY FOR PERSONAL CARE ASSISTANCE AND ACCESS TO DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND COMMUNITY ACCESS FOR DISABILITY INCLUSION WAIVERS.**

By December 15, 2020, the commissioner shall submit a report to chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over human services on modifications to the eligibility criteria for the personal care assistance program and limits on the growth of the developmental disabilities and community access for disability inclusion waivers enacted following the 2019 legislative session. The report shall include the impact on people receiving or requesting services and any recommendations. By February 15, 2021, the commissioner shall supplement the December 15, 2020, report with updated data and information.

Sec. 65. **DIRECTION TO THE COMMISSIONER OF HUMAN SERVICES; INTERMEDIATE CARE FACILITY FOR PERSONS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES LEVEL OF CARE CRITERIA.**

By February 1, 2020, the commissioner of human services shall submit to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over health and human services finance and policy recommended language to codify in Minnesota Statutes the commissioner's existing criteria for the determination of need for intermediate care facility for persons with developmental disabilities level of care. The recommended language shall include language clarifying "at risk of placement," "reasonable indication," and "might require" as those expressions are used in Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.092, subdivision 7, paragraph (b). The recommended statutory language shall also include the commissioner's current guidance with respect to the interpretation and application of the federal standard under Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, section 483.440, that a person receiving the services of an intermediate care facility for persons with developmental disabilities require a continuous active treatment plan, including which characteristics are necessary or sufficient for a determination of a need for active treatment. The commissioner shall submit the recommended statutory language with a letter listing, with statutory references, all the programs and services for which an intermediate care facility for persons with developmental disabilities level of care is required.

Sec. 66. **REVISOR INSTRUCTION.**

(a) The revisor of statutes shall change the term "developmental disability waiver" or similar terms to "developmental disabilities waiver" or similar terms wherever they appear in Minnesota Statutes. The revisor shall also make technical and other necessary changes to sentence structure to preserve the meaning of the text.

(b) The revisor of statutes, in consultation with the House Research Department, Office of Senate Counsel, Research and Fiscal Analysis, and Department of Human Services, shall prepare legislation for the 2020 legislative session to codify existing session laws governing consumer-directed community supports in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 256B.

Sec. 67. **REPEALER.**

Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256I.05, subdivision 3, is repealed.

ARTICLE 6
DIRECT CARE AND TREATMENT

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 246.54, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 3. **Administrative review of county liability for cost of care.** (a) The county of financial responsibility may submit a written request for administrative review by the commissioner of the county's payment of the cost of care when a delay in discharge of a client from a regional treatment center, state-operated community-based behavioral health hospital, or other state-operated facility results from the following actions by the facility:

(1) the facility did not provide notice to the county that the facility has determined that it is clinically appropriate for a client to be discharged;

(2) the notice to the county that the facility has determined that it is clinically appropriate for a client to be discharged was communicated on a holiday or weekend;

(3) the required documentation or procedures for discharge were not completed in order for the discharge to occur in a timely manner; or

(4) the facility disagrees with the county's discharge plan.

(b) The county of financial responsibility may not appeal the determination that it is clinically appropriate for a client to be discharged from a regional treatment center, state-operated community-based behavioral health hospital, or other state-operated facility.

(c) The commissioner must evaluate the request for administrative review and determine if the facility's actions listed in paragraph (a) caused undue delay in discharging the client. If the commissioner determines that the facility's actions listed in paragraph (a) caused undue delay in discharging the client, the county's liability will be reduced to the level of the cost of care for a client whose stay in a facility is determined to be clinically appropriate, effective on the date of the facility's action or failure to act that caused the delay. The commissioner's determination under this subdivision is final.

(d) If a county's liability is reduced pursuant to paragraph (c), a county's liability will return to the level of the cost of care for a client whose stay in a facility is determined to no longer be appropriate effective on the date the facility rectifies the action or failure to act that caused the delay under paragraph (a).

(e) Any difference in the county cost of care liability resulting from administrative review under this subdivision shall not be billed to the client or applied to future reimbursement from the client's estate or relatives.

Sec. 2. **DIRECTION TO COMMISSIONER; REPORT REQUIRED; DISCHARGE DELAY REDUCTION.**

No later than January 1, 2023, the commissioner of human services must submit a report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over human services that provides an update on county and state efforts to reduce the number of days clients spend in state-operated facilities after discharge from the facility has been determined to be clinically appropriate. The report must also include information on the fiscal impact of clinically inappropriate stays in these facilities.

Sec. 3. **DIRECTION TO COMMISSIONER; MSOCS COON RAPIDS ILEX CLOSURE.**

The commissioner of human services shall close the Minnesota state-operated community services program known as MSOCS Coon Rapids Ilex. The commissioner must not reopen or redesign the program. For the purposes of this section:

(1) a program is considered closed if the commissioner discontinues providing services at a given location;

(2) a program is considered reopened if the commissioner opens a new program or begins providing a new service at a location that was previously closed; and

(3) a program is considered redesigned if the commissioner does not change the nature of the services provided, but does change the focus of the population served by the program.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 4. **REPEALER.**

Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 246.18, subdivisions 8 and 9, are repealed.

ARTICLE 7
OPERATIONS

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 144.057, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Reconsiderations.** The commissioner of health shall review and decide reconsideration requests, including the granting of variances, in accordance with the procedures and criteria contained in chapter 245C. The commissioner must set aside a disqualification for an individual who requests reconsideration and who meets the criteria described in section 245C.22, subdivision 4, paragraph (d). The commissioner's decision shall be provided to the individual and to the Department of Human Services. The commissioner's decision to grant or deny a reconsideration of disqualification is the final administrative agency action, except for the provisions under sections 245C.25, 245C.27, and 245C.28, subdivision 3.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 245A.04, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Grant of license; license extension.** (a) If the commissioner determines that the program complies with all applicable rules and laws, the commissioner shall issue a license consistent with this section or, if applicable, a temporary change of ownership license under section 245A.043. At minimum, the license shall state:

(1) the name of the license holder;

(2) the address of the program;

(3) the effective date and expiration date of the license;

(4) the type of license;

(5) the maximum number and ages of persons that may receive services from the program; and

(6) any special conditions of licensure.

(b) The commissioner may issue ~~an initial~~ a license for a period not to exceed two years if:

(1) the commissioner is unable to conduct the evaluation or observation required by subdivision 4, paragraph (a), clauses (3) and (4), because the program is not yet operational;

(2) certain records and documents are not available because persons are not yet receiving services from the program; and

(3) the applicant complies with applicable laws and rules in all other respects.

(c) A decision by the commissioner to issue a license does not guarantee that any person or persons will be placed or cared for in the licensed program. ~~A license shall not be transferable to another individual, corporation, partnership, voluntary association, other organization, or controlling individual or to another location.~~

~~(d) A license holder must notify the commissioner and obtain the commissioner's approval before making any changes that would alter the license information listed under paragraph (a).~~

~~(e)~~ (d) Except as provided in paragraphs ~~(g)~~ (f) and ~~(h)~~ (g), the commissioner shall not issue or reissue a license if the applicant, license holder, or controlling individual has:

(1) been disqualified and the disqualification was not set aside and no variance has been granted;

(2) been denied a license within the past two years;

(3) had a license issued under this chapter revoked within the past five years;

(4) an outstanding debt related to a license fee, licensing fine, or settlement agreement for which payment is delinquent; or

(5) failed to submit the information required of an applicant under subdivision 1, paragraph (f) or (g), after being requested by the commissioner.

When a license issued under this chapter is revoked under clause (1) or (3), the license holder and controlling individual may not hold any license under chapter 245A or 245D for five years following the revocation, and other licenses held by the applicant, license holder, or controlling individual shall also be revoked.

~~(f)~~ (e) The commissioner shall not issue or reissue a license under this chapter if an individual living in the household where the ~~licensed~~ services will be provided as specified under section 245C.03, subdivision 1, has been disqualified and the disqualification has not been set aside and no variance has been granted.

~~(g)~~ (f) Pursuant to section 245A.07, subdivision 1, paragraph (b), when a license issued under this chapter has been suspended or revoked and the suspension or revocation is under appeal, the program may continue to operate pending a final order from the commissioner. If the license under suspension or revocation will expire before a final order is issued, a temporary provisional license may be issued provided any applicable license fee is paid before the temporary provisional license is issued.

~~(h)~~ (g) Notwithstanding paragraph ~~(g)~~ (f), when a revocation is based on the disqualification of a controlling individual or license holder, and the controlling individual or license holder is ordered under section 245C.17 to be immediately removed from direct contact with persons receiving services or is ordered to be under continuous, direct supervision when providing direct contact services, the program may continue to operate only if the program complies with the order and submits documentation demonstrating compliance with the order. If the disqualified individual fails to submit a timely request for reconsideration, or if the disqualification is not set aside and no variance is granted, the order to immediately remove the individual from direct contact or to be under continuous, direct supervision remains in effect pending the outcome of a hearing and final order from the commissioner.

~~(i)~~ (h) For purposes of reimbursement for meals only, under the Child and Adult Care Food Program, Code of Federal Regulations, title 7, subtitle B, chapter II, subchapter A, part 226, relocation within the same county by a licensed family day care provider, shall be considered an extension of the license for a period of no more than 30 calendar days or until the new license is issued, whichever occurs first, provided the county agency has determined the family day care provider meets licensure requirements at the new location.

~~(j)~~ (i) Unless otherwise specified by statute, all licenses issued under this chapter expire at 12:01 a.m. on the day after the expiration date stated on the license. A license holder must apply for and be granted a new license to operate the program or the program must not be operated after the expiration date.

~~(k)~~ (j) The commissioner shall not issue or reissue a license under this chapter if it has been determined that a tribal licensing authority has established jurisdiction to license the program or service.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2020.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 245A.04, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 7a. **Notification required.** (a) A license holder must notify the commissioner and obtain the commissioner's approval before making any change that would alter the license information listed under subdivision 7, paragraph (a).

(b) At least 30 days before the effective date of a change, the license holder must notify the commissioner in writing of any change:

(1) to the license holder's controlling individual as defined in section 245A.02, subdivision 5a;

(2) to license holder information on file with the secretary of state;

(3) in the location of the program or service licensed under this chapter; and

(4) in the federal or state tax identification number associated with the license holder.

(c) When a license holder notifies the commissioner of a change to the business structure governing the licensed program or services but is not selling the business, the license holder must provide amended articles of incorporation and other documentation of the change and any other information requested by the commissioner.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2020.

Sec. 4. **[245A.043] LICENSE APPLICATION AFTER CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP.**

Subdivision 1. **Transfer prohibited.** A license issued under this chapter is only valid for a premises and individual, organization, or government entity identified by the commissioner on the license. A license is not transferable or assignable.

Subd. 2. **Change of ownership.** If the commissioner determines that there will be a change of ownership, the commissioner shall require submission of a new license application. A change of ownership occurs when:

(1) the license holder sells or transfers 100 percent of the property, stock, or assets;

(2) the license holder merges with another organization;

(3) the license holder consolidates with two or more organizations, resulting in the creation of a new organization;

(4) there is a change in the federal tax identification number associated with the license holder; or

(5) there is a turnover of each controlling individual associated with the license within a 12-month period. A change to the license holder's controlling individuals, including a change due to a transfer of stock, is not a change of ownership if at least one controlling individual who was listed on the license for at least 12 consecutive months continues to be a controlling individual after the reported change.

Subd. 3. **Change of ownership requirements.** (a) A license holder who intends to change the ownership of the program or service under subdivision 2 to a party that intends to assume operation without an interruption in service longer than 60 days after acquiring the program or service must provide the commissioner with written notice of the proposed sale or change, on a form provided by the commissioner, at least 60 days before the anticipated date of the change in ownership. For purposes of this subdivision and subdivision 4, "party" means the party that intends to operate the service or program.

(b) The party must submit a license application under this chapter on the form and in the manner prescribed by the commissioner at least 30 days before the change of ownership is complete and must include documentation to support the upcoming change. The form and manner of the application prescribed by the commissioner shall require only information which is specifically required by statute or rule. The party must comply with background study requirements under chapter 245C and shall pay the application fee required in section 245A.10. A party that intends to assume operation without an interruption in service longer than 60 days after acquiring the program or service is exempt from the requirements of Minnesota Rules, part 9530.6800.

(c) The commissioner may develop streamlined application procedures when the party is an existing license holder under this chapter and is acquiring a program licensed under this chapter or service in the same service class as one or more licensed programs or services the party operates and those licenses are in substantial compliance according to the licensing standards in this chapter and applicable rules. For purposes of this subdivision, "substantial compliance" means within the past 12 months the commissioner did not: (i) issue a sanction under section 245A.07 against a license held by the party or (ii) make a license held by the party conditional according to section 245A.06.

(d) Except when a temporary change of ownership license is issued pursuant to subdivision 4, the existing license holder is solely responsible for operating the program according to applicable rules and statutes until a license under this chapter is issued to the party.

(e) If a licensing inspection of the program or service was conducted within the previous 12 months and the existing license holder's license record demonstrates substantial compliance with the applicable licensing requirements, the commissioner may waive the party's inspection required by section 245A.04, subdivision 4. The party must submit to the commissioner proof that the premises was inspected by a fire marshal or that the fire marshal deemed that an inspection was not warranted and proof that the premises was inspected for compliance with the building code or that no inspection was deemed warranted.

(f) If the party is seeking a license for a program or service that has an outstanding correction order, the party must submit a letter with the license application identifying how and within what length of time the party shall resolve the outstanding correction order and come into full compliance with the licensing requirements.

(g) Any action taken under section 245A.06 or 245A.07 against the existing license holder's license at the time the party is applying for a license, including when the existing license holder is operating under a conditional license or is subject to a revocation, shall remain in effect until the commissioner determines that the grounds for the action are corrected or no longer exist.

(h) The commissioner shall evaluate the application of the party according to section 245A.04, subdivision 6. Pursuant to section 245A.04, subdivision 7, if the commissioner determines that the party complies with applicable laws and rules, the commissioner may issue a license or a temporary change of ownership license.

(i) The commissioner may deny an application as provided in section 245A.05. An applicant whose application was denied by the commissioner may appeal the denial according to section 245A.05.

(j) This subdivision does not apply to a licensed program or service located in a home where the license holder resides.

Subd. 4. **Temporary change of ownership license.** (a) After receiving the party's application and upon the written request of the existing license holder and the party, the commissioner may issue a temporary change of ownership license to the party while the commissioner evaluates the party's application. Until a decision is made to grant or deny a license under this chapter, the existing license holder and the party shall both be responsible for operating the program or service according to applicable laws and rules, and the sale or transfer of the license holder's ownership interest in the licensed program or service does not terminate the existing license.

(b) The commissioner may establish criteria to issue a temporary change of ownership license, if a license holder's death, divorce, or other event affects the ownership of the program, when an applicant seeks to assume operation of the program or service to ensure continuity of the program or service while a license application is evaluated. This subdivision applies to any program or service licensed under this chapter.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2020.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 245A.065, is amended to read:

245A.065 CHILD CARE FIX-IT TICKET.

Subdivision 1. **Contents of fix-it tickets.** (a) In lieu of a correction order under section 245A.06, the commissioner ~~shall~~ may issue a fix-it ticket to a family child care or child care center license holder if the commissioner finds that:

(1) the license holder has failed to comply with a requirement in this chapter or Minnesota Rules, chapter 9502 or 9503~~, that the commissioner determines to be eligible for a fix-it ticket~~;

(2) the violation does not imminently endanger the health, safety, or rights of the persons served by the program;

(3) the license holder did not receive a fix-it ticket or correction order for the violation at the license holder's last licensing inspection; and

(4) the violation ~~can~~ cannot be corrected at the time of inspection~~ or within 48 hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays; and~~

~~(5) the license holder corrects the violation at the time of inspection or agrees to correct the violation within 48 hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays~~.

(b) The commissioner shall not issue a fix-it ticket for violations that are corrected at the time of the inspection.

(c) The fix-it ticket must state:

(1) the conditions that constitute a violation of the law or rule;

(2) the specific law or rule violated; and

(3) that the violation ~~was corrected at the time of inspection or~~ must be corrected within 48 hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays.

~~(c)~~ (d) The commissioner shall not publicly publish a fix-it ticket on the department's website.

~~(d)~~ (e) Within 48 hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, of receiving a fix-it ticket, the license holder must correct the violation and within one week submit evidence to the licensing agency that the violation was corrected.

~~(e)~~ (f) If the violation is not corrected ~~at the time of inspection or~~ within 48 hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, or the evidence submitted is insufficient to establish that the license holder corrected the violation, the commissioner must issue a correction order, according to section 245A.06, for the violation of Minnesota law or rule identified in the fix-it ticket ~~according to section 245A.06~~.

~~(f) The commissioner shall, following consultation with family child care license holders, child care center license holders, and county agencies, issue a report by October 1, 2017, that identifies the violations of this chapter and Minnesota Rules, chapters 9502 and 9503, that are eligible for a fix-it ticket. The commissioner shall provide the report to county agencies and the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over child care, and shall post the report to the department's website.~~

Subd. 2. **Fix-it ticket laws and rules.** (a) For family child care license holders, violations of the following laws and rules may qualify only for a fix-it ticket: 9502.0335, subpart 10; 9502.0375, subpart 2; 9502.0395; 9502.0405, subpart 3; 9502.0405, subpart 4, item A; 9502.0415, subpart 3; 9502.0425, subpart 2 (outdoor play spaces must be free from litter, rubbish, unlocked vehicles, or human or animal waste); 9502.0425, subpart 3 (wading pools must be kept clean); 9502.0425, subpart 5; 9502.0425, subpart 7, item F (screens on exterior doors and windows when biting insects are prevalent); 9502.0425, subpart 8; 9502.0425, subpart 10; 9502.0425, subpart 11 (decks free of splinters); 9502.0425, subpart 13 (toilets flush thoroughly); 9502.0425, subpart 16; 9502.0435, subpart 1; 9502.0435, subpart 3; 9502.0435, subpart 7; 9502.0435, subpart 8, item B; 9502.0435, subpart 8, item E; 9502.0435, subpart 12, items A through E; 9502.0435, subpart 13; 9502.0435, subpart 14; 9502.0435, subpart 15; 9502.0435, subpart 15, items A and B; 9502.0445, subpart 1, item B; 9502.0445, subpart 3, items B through D; 9502.0445, subpart 4, items A through C; 245A.04, subdivision 14, paragraph (c); 245A.06, subdivision 8; 245A.07, subdivision 5; 245A.146, subdivision 3, paragraph (c); 245A.148; 245A.152; 245A.50, subdivision 7; 245A.51, subdivision 3, paragraph (d) (emergency preparedness plan available for review and posted in prominent location).

(b) For child care center license holders, violations of the following laws and rules may qualify only for a fix-it ticket: 9503.0120, item B; 9503.0120, item E; 9503.0125, item E; 9503.0125, item F; 9503.0125, item I; 9503.0125, item M; 9503.0140, subpart 2; 9503.0140, subpart 7, item D; 9503.0140, subpart 9; 9503.0140, subpart 10; 9503.0140, subpart 13;

9503.0140, subpart 14; 9503.0140, subpart 15; 9503.0140, subpart 16 (item missing from first-aid kit); 9503.0140, subpart 18; 9503.0140, subpart 19; 9503.0140, subpart 20; 9503.0140, subpart 21 (emergency plan not posted in prominent place); 9503.0145, subpart 2; 9503.0145, subpart 3; 9503.0145, subpart 4, item D; 9503.0145, subpart 8 (drinking water provided in single service cups or at an accessible drinking fountain); 9503.0155, subpart 7, item D; 9503.0155, subpart 13; 9503.0155, subpart 16; 9503.0155, subpart 17; 9503.0155, subpart 18, item D; 9503.0170, subpart 3; 9503.0145, subpart 7, item D; 245A.04, subdivision 14, paragraph (c); 245A.06, subdivision 8; 245A.07, subdivision 5; 245A.14, subdivision 8, paragraph (b) (experienced aide identification posting); 245A.146, subdivision 3, paragraph (c); 245A.152; 245A.41, subdivision 3, paragraph (d); 245A.41, subdivision 3, paragraph (e); 245A.41, subdivision 3, paragraph (f).

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 245C.02, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 20. **Substance use disorder treatment field.** "Substance use disorder treatment field" means a program exclusively serving individuals 18 years of age and older and that is required to be:

(1) licensed under chapter 245G; or

(2) registered under section 157.17 as a board and lodge establishment that predominantly serves individuals being treated for or recovering from a substance use disorder.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 245C.22, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Risk of harm; set aside.** (a) The commissioner may set aside the disqualification if the commissioner finds that the individual has submitted sufficient information to demonstrate that the individual does not pose a risk of harm to any person served by the applicant, license holder, or other entities as provided in this chapter.

(b) In determining whether the individual has met the burden of proof by demonstrating the individual does not pose a risk of harm, the commissioner shall consider:

(1) the nature, severity, and consequences of the event or events that led to the disqualification;

(2) whether there is more than one disqualifying event;

(3) the age and vulnerability of the victim at the time of the event;

(4) the harm suffered by the victim;

(5) vulnerability of persons served by the program;

(6) the similarity between the victim and persons served by the program;

(7) the time elapsed without a repeat of the same or similar event;

(8) documentation of successful completion by the individual studied of training or rehabilitation pertinent to the event; and

(9) any other information relevant to reconsideration.

(c) If the individual requested reconsideration on the basis that the information relied upon to disqualify the individual was incorrect or inaccurate and the commissioner determines that the information relied upon to disqualify the individual is correct, the commissioner must also determine if the individual poses a risk of harm to persons receiving services in accordance with paragraph (b).

(d) For an individual seeking employment in the substance use disorder treatment field, the commissioner shall set aside the disqualification if the following criteria are met:

(1) the individual is not disqualified for a crime of violence as listed under section 624.712, subdivision 5, except that the following crimes are prohibitory offenses: crimes listed under section 152.021, subdivision 2 or 2a; 152.022, subdivision 2; 152.023, subdivision 2; 152.024; or 152.025;

(2) the individual is not disqualified under section 245C.15, subdivision 1;

(3) the individual is not disqualified under section 245C.15, subdivision 4, paragraph (b);

(4) the individual provided documentation of successful completion of treatment, at least one year prior to the date of the request for reconsideration, at a program licensed under chapter 245G, and has had no disqualifying crimes or conduct under section 245C.15 after the successful completion of treatment;

(5) the individual provided documentation demonstrating abstinence from controlled substances, as defined in section 152.01, subdivision 4, for the period of one year prior to the date of the request for reconsideration; and

(6) the individual is seeking employment in the substance use disorder treatment field.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 245C.22, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Scope of set-aside.** (a) If the commissioner sets aside a disqualification under this section, the disqualified individual remains disqualified, but may hold a license and

have direct contact with or access to persons receiving services. Except as provided in paragraph (b), the commissioner's set-aside of a disqualification is limited solely to the licensed program, applicant, or agency specified in the set aside notice under section 245C.23. For personal care provider organizations, the commissioner's set-aside may further be limited to a specific individual who is receiving services. For new background studies required under section 245C.04, subdivision 1, paragraph (h), if an individual's disqualification was previously set aside for the license holder's program and the new background study results in no new information that indicates the individual may pose a risk of harm to persons receiving services from the license holder, the previous set-aside shall remain in effect.

(b) If the commissioner has previously set aside an individual's disqualification for one or more programs or agencies, and the individual is the subject of a subsequent background study for a different program or agency, the commissioner shall determine whether the disqualification is set aside for the program or agency that initiated the subsequent background study. A notice of a set-aside under paragraph (c) shall be issued within 15 working days if all of the following criteria are met:

(1) the subsequent background study was initiated in connection with a program licensed or regulated under the same provisions of law and rule for at least one program for which the individual's disqualification was previously set aside by the commissioner;

(2) the individual is not disqualified for an offense specified in section 245C.15, subdivision 1 or 2;

(3) the commissioner has received no new information to indicate that the individual may pose a risk of harm to any person served by the program; and

(4) the previous set-aside was not limited to a specific person receiving services.

(c) Notwithstanding paragraph (b), clause (2), for an individual who is employed in the substance use disorder field, if the commissioner has previously set aside an individual's disqualification for one or more programs or agencies in the substance use disorder treatment field, and the individual is the subject of a subsequent background study for a different program or agency in the substance use disorder treatment field, the commissioner shall set aside the disqualification for the program or agency in the substance use disorder treatment field that initiated the subsequent background study when the criteria under paragraph (b), clauses (1), (3), and (4), are met and the individual is not disqualified for an offense specified in section 254C.15, subdivision 1. A notice of a set-aside under paragraph (d) shall be issued within 15 working days.

~~(c)~~ (d) When a disqualification is set aside under paragraph (b), the notice of background study results issued under section 245C.17, in addition to the requirements under section 245C.17, shall state that the disqualification is set aside for the program or agency that initiated the subsequent background study. The notice must inform the individual that the individual may request reconsideration of the disqualification under section 245C.21 on the basis that the information used to disqualify the individual is incorrect.

Sec. 9. **[256.0113] COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES STATE FUNDING REALLOCATION.**

(a) Beginning October 1, 2019, counties and tribes or tribal agencies receiving human services grants funded exclusively with state general fund dollars may allocate any unexpended grant amounts to any county or tribal human services activity for the fourth quarter of the county or tribe's fiscal year.

(b) Any proposed reallocation of unspent funds must be approved by majority vote of the county board or the tribe or tribal agency's governing body.

(c) Each county, tribe, or tribal agency shall report any approved reallocation of unspent grant funds to the commissioner of human services by March 31 of each year following a reallocation under this section. The report shall describe the use of the reallocated human services grant funds, compare how the funds were allocated prior to the reallocation, and explain the advantages or disadvantages of the reallocation.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.04, subdivision 21, is amended to read:

Subd. 21. **Provider enrollment.** (a) If the commissioner or the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services determines that a provider is designated "high-risk," the commissioner may withhold payment from providers within that category upon initial enrollment for a 90-day period. The withholding for each provider must begin on the date of the first submission of a claim.

(b) An enrolled provider that is also licensed by the commissioner under chapter 245A, or is licensed as a home care provider by the Department of Health under chapter 144A and has a home and community-based services designation on the home care license under section 144A.484, must designate an individual as the entity's compliance officer. The compliance officer must:

(1) develop policies and procedures to assure adherence to medical assistance laws and regulations and to prevent inappropriate claims submissions;

(2) train the employees of the provider entity, and any agents or subcontractors of the provider entity including billers, on the policies and procedures under clause (1);

(3) respond to allegations of improper conduct related to the provision or billing of medical assistance services, and implement action to remediate any resulting problems;

(4) use evaluation techniques to monitor compliance with medical assistance laws and regulations;

(5) promptly report to the commissioner any identified violations of medical assistance laws or regulations; and

(6) within 60 days of discovery by the provider of a medical assistance reimbursement overpayment, report the overpayment to the commissioner and make arrangements with the commissioner for the commissioner's recovery of the overpayment.

The commissioner may require, as a condition of enrollment in medical assistance, that a provider within a particular industry sector or category establish a compliance program that contains the core elements established by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

(c) The commissioner may revoke the enrollment of an ordering or rendering provider for a period of not more than one year, if the provider fails to maintain and, upon request from the commissioner, provide access to documentation relating to written orders or requests for payment for durable medical equipment, certifications for home health services, or referrals for other items or services written or ordered by such provider, when the commissioner has identified a pattern of a lack of documentation. A pattern means a failure to maintain documentation or provide access to documentation on more than one occasion. Nothing in this paragraph limits the authority of the commissioner to sanction a provider under the provisions of section 256B.064.

(d) The commissioner shall terminate or deny the enrollment of any individual or entity if the individual or entity has been terminated from participation in Medicare or under the Medicaid program or Children's Health Insurance Program of any other state. The commissioner may exempt a rehabilitation agency from termination or denial that would otherwise be required under this paragraph, if the agency:

(1) is unable to retain Medicare certification and enrollment solely due to a lack of billing to the Medicare program;

(2) meets all other applicable Medicare certification requirements based on an on-site review completed by the commissioner of health; and

(3) serves primarily a pediatric population.

(e) As a condition of enrollment in medical assistance, the commissioner shall require that a provider designated "moderate" or "high-risk" by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services or the commissioner permit the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, its agents, or its designated contractors and the state agency, its agents, or its designated contractors to conduct unannounced on-site inspections of any provider location. The commissioner shall publish in the Minnesota Health Care Program Provider Manual a list of provider types designated "limited," "moderate," or "high-risk," based on the criteria and standards used to designate Medicare providers in Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, section 424.518. The list and criteria are not subject to the requirements of chapter 14. The commissioner's designations are not subject to administrative appeal.

(f) As a condition of enrollment in medical assistance, the commissioner shall require that a high-risk provider, or a person with a direct or indirect ownership interest in the provider of five percent or higher, consent to criminal background checks, including fingerprinting, when required to do so under state law or by a determination by the commissioner or the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services that a provider is designated high-risk for fraud, waste, or abuse.

(g)(1) Upon initial enrollment, reenrollment, and notification of revalidation, all durable medical equipment, prosthetics, orthotics, and supplies (DMEPOS) medical suppliers meeting the durable medical equipment provider and supplier definition in clause (3), operating in Minnesota and receiving Medicaid funds must purchase a surety bond that is annually renewed and designates the Minnesota Department of Human Services as the obligee, and must be submitted in a form approved by the commissioner. For purposes of this clause, the following medical suppliers are not required to obtain a surety bond: a federally qualified health center, a home health agency, the Indian Health Service, a pharmacy, and a rural health clinic.

(2) At the time of initial enrollment or reenrollment, durable medical equipment providers and suppliers defined in clause (3) must purchase a surety bond of $50,000. If a revalidating provider's Medicaid revenue in the previous calendar year is up to and including $300,000, the provider agency must purchase a surety bond of $50,000. If a revalidating provider's Medicaid revenue in the previous calendar year is over $300,000, the provider agency must purchase a surety bond of $100,000. The surety bond must allow for recovery of costs and fees in pursuing a claim on the bond.

(3) "Durable medical equipment provider or supplier" means a medical supplier that can purchase medical equipment or supplies for sale or rental to the general public and is able

to perform or arrange for necessary repairs to and maintenance of equipment offered for sale or rental.

(h) The Department of Human Services may require a provider to purchase a surety bond as a condition of initial enrollment, reenrollment, reinstatement, or continued enrollment if: (1) the provider fails to demonstrate financial viability, (2) the department determines there is significant evidence of or potential for fraud and abuse by the provider, or (3) the provider or category of providers is designated high-risk pursuant to paragraph (a) and as per Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, section 455.450. The surety bond must be in an amount of $100,000 or ten percent of the provider's payments from Medicaid during the immediately preceding 12 months, whichever is greater. The surety bond must name the Department of Human Services as an obligee and must allow for recovery of costs and fees in pursuing a claim on the bond. This paragraph does not apply if the provider currently maintains a surety bond under the requirements in section 256B.0659 or 256B.85.

Sec. 11. **REPEALER.**

Minnesota Statutes 2018, sections 16A.724, subdivision 2; and 245G.11, subdivisions 1, 4, and 7, are repealed.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

ARTICLE 8
HEALTH CARE

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 13.69, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Classifications.** (a) The following government data of the Department of Public Safety are private data:

(1) medical data on driving instructors, licensed drivers, and applicants for parking certificates and special license plates issued to physically disabled persons;

(2) other data on holders of a disability certificate under section 169.345, except that (i) data that are not medical data may be released to law enforcement agencies, and (ii) data necessary for enforcement of sections 169.345 and 169.346 may be released to parking enforcement employees or parking enforcement agents of statutory or home rule charter cities and towns;

(3) Social Security numbers in driver's license and motor vehicle registration records, except that Social Security numbers must be provided to the Department of Revenue for purposes of tax administration, the Department of Labor and Industry for purposes of

workers' compensation administration and enforcement, the judicial branch for purposes of debt collection, and the Department of Natural Resources for purposes of license application administration, and except that the last four digits of the Social Security number must be provided to the Department of Human Services for purposes of recovery of Minnesota health care program benefits paid; and

(4) data on persons listed as standby or temporary custodians under section 171.07, subdivision 11, except that the data must be released to:

(i) law enforcement agencies for the purpose of verifying that an individual is a designated caregiver; or

(ii) law enforcement agencies who state that the license holder is unable to communicate at that time and that the information is necessary for notifying the designated caregiver of the need to care for a child of the license holder.

The department may release the Social Security number only as provided in clause (3) and must not sell or otherwise provide individual Social Security numbers or lists of Social Security numbers for any other purpose.

(b) The following government data of the Department of Public Safety are confidential data: data concerning an individual's driving ability when that data is received from a member of the individual's family.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256.9365, is amended to read:

256.9365 PURCHASE OF ~~CONTINUATION~~ HEALTH CARE COVERAGE FOR ~~AIDS PATIENTS~~ PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV.

Subdivision 1. **Program established.** The commissioner of human services shall establish a program to pay ~~private~~ the cost of health plan premiums and cost sharing for prescriptions, including co-payments, deductibles, and coinsurance for persons who have contracted human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) to enable them to continue coverage under or enroll in a group or individual health plan. If a person is determined to be eligible under subdivision 2, the commissioner shall pay the ~~portion of the group plan premium for which the individual is responsible, if the individual is responsible for at least 50 percent of the cost of the premium, or pay the individual plan premium~~ health insurance premiums and prescription cost sharing, including co-payments and deductibles required under section 256B.0631. The commissioner shall not pay for that portion of a premium that is attributable to other family members or dependents or is paid by the individual's employer.

Subd. 2. **Eligibility requirements.** To be eligible for the program, an applicant must ~~satisfy the following requirements:~~ meet all eligibility requirements for and enroll in Part B of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act of 2009, Public Law 111-87.

~~(1) the applicant must provide a physician's, advanced practice registered nurse's, or physician assistant's statement verifying that the applicant is infected with HIV and is, or within three months is likely to become, too ill to work in the applicant's current employment because of HIV-related disease;~~

~~(2) the applicant's monthly gross family income must not exceed 300 percent of the federal poverty guidelines, after deducting medical expenses and insurance premiums;~~

~~(3) the applicant must not own assets with a combined value of more than $25,000; and~~

~~(4) if applying for payment of group plan premiums, the applicant must be covered by an employer's or former employer's group insurance plan.~~

Subd. 3. **Cost-effective coverage.** Requirements for the payment of individual plan premiums under ~~subdivision 2, clause (5),~~ this section must be designed to ensure that the state cost of paying an individual plan premium does not exceed the estimated state cost that would otherwise be incurred in the medical assistance program. The commissioner shall purchase the most cost-effective coverage available for eligible individuals.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.056, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Asset limitations for certain individuals.** (a) To be eligible for medical assistance, a person must not individually own more than $3,000 in assets, or if a member of a household with two family members, husband and wife, or parent and child, the household must not own more than $6,000 in assets, plus $200 for each additional legal dependent. In addition to these maximum amounts, an eligible individual or family may accrue interest on these amounts, but they must be reduced to the maximum at the time of an eligibility redetermination. The accumulation of the clothing and personal needs allowance according to section 256B.35 must also be reduced to the maximum at the time of the eligibility redetermination. The value of assets that are not considered in determining eligibility for medical assistance is the value of those assets excluded under the Supplemental Security Income program for aged, blind, and disabled persons, with the following exceptions:

(1) household goods and personal effects are not considered;

(2) capital and operating assets of a trade or business that the local agency determines are necessary to the person's ability to earn an income are not considered;

(3) motor vehicles are excluded to the same extent excluded by the Supplemental Security Income program;

(4) assets designated as burial expenses are excluded to the same extent excluded by the Supplemental Security Income program. Burial expenses funded by annuity contracts or life insurance policies must irrevocably designate the individual's estate as contingent beneficiary to the extent proceeds are not used for payment of selected burial expenses;

(5) for a person who no longer qualifies as an employed person with a disability due to loss of earnings, assets allowed while eligible for medical assistance under section 256B.057, subdivision 9, are not considered for 12 months, beginning with the first month of ineligibility as an employed person with a disability, to the extent that the person's total assets remain within the allowed limits of section 256B.057, subdivision 9, paragraph (d);

(6) ~~when a person enrolled in medical assistance under section 256B.057, subdivision 9, is age 65 or older and has been enrolled during each of the 24 consecutive months before the person's 65th birthday, the assets owned by the person and the person's spouse must be disregarded, up to the limits of section 256B.057, subdivision 9, paragraph (d), when determining eligibility for medical assistance under section 256B.055, subdivision 7.~~ a designated employment incentives asset account is disregarded when determining eligibility for medical assistance for a person age 65 years or older under section 256B.055, subdivision 7. An employment incentives asset account must only be designated by a person who has been enrolled in medical assistance under section 256B.057, subdivision 9, for a 24-consecutive-month period. A designated employment incentives asset account contains qualified assets owned by the person and the person's spouse in the last month of enrollment in medical assistance under section 256B.057, subdivision 9. Qualified assets include retirement and pension accounts, medical expense accounts, and up to $17,000 of the person's other nonexcluded assets. An employment incentives asset account is no longer designated when a person loses medical assistance eligibility for a calendar month or more before turning age 65. A person who loses medical assistance eligibility before age 65 can establish a new designated employment incentives asset account by establishing a new 24-consecutive-month period of enrollment under section 256B.057, subdivision 9. The income of a spouse of a person enrolled in medical assistance under section 256B.057, subdivision 9, during each of the 24 consecutive months before the person's 65th birthday must be disregarded when determining eligibility for medical assistance under section 256B.055, subdivision 7. Persons eligible under this clause are not subject to the provisions in section 256B.059; and

(7) effective July 1, 2009, certain assets owned by American Indians are excluded as required by section 5006 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Public Law 111-5. For purposes of this clause, an American Indian is any person who meets the definition of Indian according to Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, section 447.50.

(b) No asset limit shall apply to persons eligible under section 256B.055, subdivision 15.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2019.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.056, subdivision 5c, is amended to read:

Subd. 5c. **Excess income standard.** (a) The excess income standard for parents and caretaker relatives, pregnant women, infants, and children ages two through 20 is the standard specified in subdivision 4, paragraph (b).

(b) The excess income standard for a person whose eligibility is based on blindness, disability, or age of 65 or more years shall equal ~~81~~ 82 percent of the federal poverty guidelines. Effective July 1, 2021, the excess income standard for a person whose eligibility is based on blindness disability, or age of 65 or more years, is the standard specified in subdivision 4, paragraph (a).

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2020.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 256B.0625, subdivision 18d, is amended to read:

Subd. 18d. **Advisory committee members.** (a) The Nonemergency Medical Transportation Advisory Committee consists of:

(1) four voting members who represent counties, utilizing the rural urban commuting area classification system. As defined in subdivision 17, these members shall be designated as follows:

(i) two counties within the 11-county metropolitan area;

(ii) one county representing the rural area of the state; and

(iii) one county representing the super rural area of the state.

The Association of Minnesota Counties shall appoint one county within the 11-county metropolitan area and one county representing the super rural area of the state. The Minnesota Inter-County Association shall appoint one county within the 11-county metropolitan area and one county representing the rural area of the state;

(2) three voting members who represent medical assistance recipients, including persons with physical and developmental disabilities, persons with mental illness, seniors, children, and low-income individuals;

(3) ~~four~~ five voting members who represent providers that deliver nonemergency medical transportation services to medical assistance enrollees, one of whom is a taxicab owner or operator;

(4) two voting members of the house of representatives, one from the majority party and one from the minority party, appointed by the speaker of the house, and two voting members from the senate, one from the majority party and one from the minority party, appointed by the Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration;

(5) one voting member who represents demonstration providers as defined in section 256B.69, subdivision 2;

(6) one voting member who represents an organization that contracts with state or local governments to coordinate transportation services for medical assistance enrollees;

(7) one voting member who represents the Minnesota State Council on Disability;

(8) the commissioner of transportation or the commissioner's designee, who shall serve as a voting member;

(9) one voting member appointed by the Minnesota Ambulance Association; and

(10) one voting member appointed by the Minnesota Hospital Association.

(b) Members of the advisory committee shall not be employed by the Department of Human Services. Members of the advisory committee shall receive no compensation.

Sec. 6. **PAIN MANAGEMENT.**

(a) The Health Services Policy Committee established under Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.0625, subdivision 3c, shall evaluate and make recommendations on the integration of nonpharmacologic pain management that are clinically viable and sustainable; reduce or eliminate chronic pain conditions; improve functional status; and prevent addiction and reduce dependence on opiates or other pain medications. The recommendations must be based on best practices for the effective treatment of musculoskeletal pain provided by health practitioners identified in paragraph (b), and covered under medical assistance. Each health practitioner represented under paragraph (b) shall present the minimum best integrated practice recommendations, policies, and scientific evidence for nonpharmacologic treatment options for eliminating pain and improving functional status within their full professional

scope. Recommendations for integration of services may include guidance regarding screening for co-occurring behavioral health diagnoses; protocols for communication between all providers treating a unique individual, including protocols for follow-up; and universal mechanisms to assess improvements in functional status.

(b) In evaluating and making recommendations, the Health Services Policy Committee shall consult and collaborate with the following health practitioners: acupuncture practitioners licensed under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 147B; chiropractors licensed under Minnesota Statutes, sections 148.01 to 148.10; physical therapists licensed under Minnesota Statutes, sections 148.68 to 148.78; medical and osteopathic physicians licensed under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 147, and advanced practice registered nurses licensed under Minnesota Statutes, sections 148.171 to 148.285, with experience in providing primary care collaboratively within a multidisciplinary team of health care practitioners who employ nonpharmacologic pain therapies; and psychologists licensed under Minnesota Statutes, section 148.907.

(c) The commissioner shall submit a progress report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over health and human services policy and finance by January 15, 2020, and shall report final recommendations by August 1, 2020. The final report may also contain recommendations for developing and implementing a pilot program to assess the clinical viability, sustainability, and effectiveness of integrated nonpharmacologic, multidisciplinary treatments for managing musculoskeletal pain and improving functional status."

Amend the title accordingly