

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill increases elderly waiver reimbursement limits, provides that assisted living services under the elderly waiver include incidental nursing, allows certain clients to exceed their monthly cost limits, and requires a study of long-term care consultation services and elderly waiver payment rates for assisted living.

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- 1 Payment for long-term care consultation services.** Amends § 256B.0911, subd. 6. Requires the commissioner to withhold long-term care consultation payments to nursing facilities whose payments to counties are more than three months in arrears, and authorizes the commissioner to send the withhold amounts directly to affected counties.
- 2 Assisted living service rate.** Amends § 256B.0915, subd. 3e. Provides that customized living services and 24-hour customized living services (two types of assisted living services offered under the elderly waiver) include incidental nursing services provided directly by a licensed nurse, under a Class A or Class F home care license, and that are not eligible for Medicare coverage. Defines incidental nursing services and directs the commissioner to amend the elderly waiver to permit coverage of the services, if the commissioner determines that the services are not permitted by the terms of the waiver.
- 3 Individual rate exceptions authorized.** Amends § 256B.0915, by adding subd. 3h. Allows a case manager, in consultation with the provider serving an elderly waiver client, to authorize additional elderly waiver services that exceed the client's monthly cost limit, if these services are needed for 30 days or less in order to avoid hospitalization or nursing facility placement. For these clients, limits the total cost of elderly waiver services to the

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monthly conversion limit for applicants who reside in a nursing facility.

- 4** **Study and report on elderly waiver.** Requires the commissioner of human services, after consulting with counties, to report to the legislature, by January 15, 2008, on: (1) the time it takes counties to complete long-term care consultation for elderly waiver applicants and recipients, including recommendations on how to improve the process; (2) the methods and tools that lead agencies use to establish payment rates for customized living and 24-hour customized living, including recommendations on how to achieve consistency; and (3) options to fully fund county responsibilities for long-term care consultations.