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## Overview

This bill provides for operating payment rate adjustments for certain facilities that are in close proximity to a higher-limit peer group. Nursing facilities are classified into three peer groups by county, with a limit placed on the total care-related per diem determined for each peer group. The groups consist of: (1) group one: facilities in Anoka, Benton, Carlton, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Dodge, Goodhue, Hennepin, Isanti, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Olmsted, Ramsey, Rice, Scott, Sherburne, St. Louis, Stearns, Steele, Wabasha, Washington, Winona, or Wright County; (2) group two: facilities in Aitkin, Beltrami, Blue Earth, Brown, Cass, Clay, Cook, Crow Wing, Faribault, Fillmore, Freeborn, Houston, Hubbard, Itasca, Kanabec, Koochiching, Lake, Lake of the Woods, Le Sueur, Martin, McLeod, Meeker, Mower, Nicollet, Norman, Pine, Roseau, Sibley, Todd, Wadena, Waseca, Watonwan, or Wilkin County; and (3) group three: facilities in all other counties.

Section

**1 Determination of proximity adjustments.** Amends § 256B.441, subd, 50a. Effective October 1, 2011, allows nursing facilities located no more than one-quarter mile from a peer group with higher limits to receive an operating payment adjustment. Requires the operating payment rates of a lower-limit peer group facility to be adjusted to be equal to those of the nearest facility in a higher-limit peer group if certain criteria are met. Specifies that the nearest facility must be determined by the most direct driving route.