

**Subject** Housing Support Program Rates

**Authors** Cantrell and others

**Analyst** Danyell A. Punelli

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## Overview

This bill modifies certain Housing Support Program rates and provides appropriations for the homeless youth act, emergency services grants, housing supports for persons with serious mental illness, and long-term homeless supportive services.

The Housing Support Program (formerly known as group residential housing or GRH) is a state program that provides payments on behalf of eligible persons to pay for room and board and related housing services.

The Homeless Youth Act was established by the legislature in 2006 and is a state-funded grant program administered by DHS to provide street and community outreach and drop-in programs, emergency shelter programs, and integrated supportive housing and transitional living programs to reduce the incidence of homelessness among youth.

The emergency services grant program was established by the legislature in 1997 and is a state-funded grant program administered by DHS to provide homeless persons essential services and emergency shelter in safe, sanitary, and decent facilities. The grant program helps eligible organizations improve the quality of existing shelters, make available other emergency housing, meet the operating and maintenance costs of shelters, and provide essential services to homeless persons.

Housing with supports for adults with serious mental illness grants are available each year through a funding agreement between the DHS Adult Mental Health Division and the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, to provide a range of supportive services in permanent housing settings for persons with severe mental illness who meet certain homeless criteria.

Long-term homeless supportive services were implemented in 2005 and are state-funded services administered by DHS to provide integrated services needed to stabilize individuals, families, and youth living in supportive housing. Long-term homelessness is defined as “lacking a permanent place to live continuously for one year or more or at least four times in the past three years.” (Minn. Stat. 256K.26, subd. 3)

## Summary

Section	Description
1	<p><b>Rate increases.</b></p> <p>Amends § 256I.05, subd. 1c. Adds paragraph (g), which allows agencies to increase rates by \$100 per month for residents in certain housing with services establishments and supportive housing establishments.</p>
2	<p><b>Appropriation; Homeless Youth Act.</b></p> <p>Appropriates \$5,619,000 in fiscal year 2020 and \$5,619,000 in fiscal year 2021 from the general fund to the commissioner of human services for grants under the homeless youth act. Adds this appropriation to the base.</p>
3	<p><b>Appropriation; Emergency Services Grants.</b></p> <p>Appropriates \$7,500,000 in fiscal year 2020 and \$7,500,000 in fiscal year 2021 from the general fund to the commissioner of human services for emergency services grants. Adds this appropriation to the base.</p>
4	<p><b>Appropriation; Housing Supports for Persons with Serious Mental Illness.</b></p> <p>Appropriates \$1,000,000 in fiscal year 2020 and \$1,000,000 in fiscal year 2021 from the general fund to the commissioner of human services for housing supports for persons with serious mental illness. Adds this appropriation to the base.</p>
5	<p><b>Appropriation; Long-Term Homeless Supportive Services.</b></p> <p>Appropriates \$900,000 in fiscal year 2020 and \$900,000 in fiscal year 2021 from the general fund to the commissioner of human services for long-term homeless supportive services. Adds this appropriation to the base.</p>



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