

Subject Pharmacy dispensing payment under medical assistance

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Overview

This bill establishes a directed pharmacy dispensing payment for the Medical Assistance (MA) program. The commissioner of human services, managed care and county-based purchasing plans, and any pharmaceutical benefit managers (PBMs) that contract with them, must make the payment to retail pharmacies in Minnesota that fill prescriptions for MA enrollees. The bill appropriates an unspecified amount to the commissioner for the payments.

Summary

| Section | Description |
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| 1 | Directed pharmacy dispensing payment. |
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Adds a subdivision to § 256B.69. Directs the commissioner of human services to provide a directed pharmacy dispensing payment of \$4.50 per filled prescription to eligible outpatient retail pharmacies in Minnesota for MA enrollees. Provides that managed care and county-based purchasing plans, and any PBMs that contract with them, must also make the payment to eligible pharmacies for drugs dispensed to MA enrollees.

Defines “eligible outpatient retail pharmacy” as a pharmacy that is not owned, directly or indirectly, by a PBM or a health carrier and that is either (1) located in a medically underserved area or primarily serves a medically underserved population, or (2) shares common ownership with 12 or fewer Minnesota pharmacies.

Provides that the commissioner must set and adjust the amount of the payment to reflect available state and federal funding. Allows the commissioner to adjust capitation rates for managed care and county-based purchasing plans based on whether federal approval is received for the directed pharmacy dispensing payment.

Makes the section effective July 1, 2025, or upon federal approval, whichever is later.

| Section | Description |
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| 2 | Appropriation. Appropriates an unspecified amount in fiscal years 2026 and 2027 from the general fund to the commissioner for the directed pharmacy dispensing payments. |



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