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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**EIGHTY-FIFTH
SESSION**

HOUSE FILE No. 3955

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to human services; promoting community-based care for older adults
1.3 through the establishment of a community consortium demonstration project;
1.4 establishing a community consortium account in the general fund to distribute
1.5 pooled resources; requiring an evaluation of the demonstration project.

1.6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.7 Section 1. **OLDER ADULT SERVICES COMMUNITY CONSORTIUMS.**

1.8 Subdivision 1. Establishment. (a) The commissioner of human services, in
1.9 cooperation with the commissioners of health and housing finance, shall develop and
1.10 implement, beginning July 1, 2009, a three-year demonstration project for older adult
1.11 services community consortiums. An older adult services community consortium
1.12 may consist of health care and social service providers, county agencies, and other
1.13 community stakeholders within a demonstration site that have established a process for
1.14 joint decision-making. Demonstration sites may include a portion of a county, an entire
1.15 county, or multiple counties.

1.16 (b) Each community consortium seeking to participate as a demonstration site must
1.17 submit an application to the commissioner. The application must include:

1.18 (1) a description of the entities participating in the consortium, the scope of
1.19 collaboration, and the process to be used for joint-decision making;

1.20 (2) the methods by which the consortium plans to achieve the goals specified in
1.21 subdivision 2;

1.22 (3) a description of the proposed demonstration site; and

1.23 (4) other information the commissioner determines to be necessary to evaluate
1.24 proposals.

2.1 (c) The commissioner of human services shall convene a review panel to select
2.2 community consortiums to participate as demonstration sites. The review panel must
2.3 include, at a minimum: representatives of the commissioners of human services,
2.4 health, and housing finance; counties; and area agencies on aging. The commissioner,
2.5 after considering the recommendations of the review panel, shall designate up to three
2.6 community consortiums as demonstration sites.

2.7 (d) Each community consortium selected to participate shall establish a local group
2.8 to assist in planning, designing, implementing, and evaluating the coordinated service
2.9 delivery system within the demonstration site. Planning for each consortium shall build
2.10 upon current planning processes developed by county gaps analyses and Elder Care
2.11 Development Partnerships under Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.0917.

2.12 Subd. 2. **Goals.** The community consortium demonstration project must be
2.13 designed to:

2.14 (1) ensure consumer access to a continuum of older adult services;

2.15 (2) create an adequate supply of affordable home-based alternatives to care for
2.16 persons currently using nursing facilities, or likely to need nursing facility services
2.17 in the future;

2.18 (3) establish and achieve measurable performance targets for care delivered
2.19 throughout the continuum of care; and

2.20 (4) support the management of chronic and complex conditions through greater
2.21 coordination of all services needed by older adults.

2.22 Subd. 3. **Priority for other grants.** The commissioner of health shall give
2.23 priority to community consortiums selected as demonstration sites when awarding
2.24 technology-related grants. The commissioner of the Housing Finance Agency shall give
2.25 priority to community consortiums selected as demonstration sites when distributing funds
2.26 to create affordable housing options for older adults. The commissioner of transportation
2.27 shall give priority to community consortiums selected as demonstration sites when
2.28 distributing transportation-related funds to create transportation options for older adults.

2.29 Subd. 4. **Federal approval.** The commissioner of human services shall request any
2.30 federal approvals or waivers necessary to implement the community consortiums under
2.31 the medical assistance program and include medical assistance funding in the community
2.32 consortium account.

2.33 Subd. 5. **State waivers.** The commissioner of health may waive applicable state
2.34 laws and rules on a time-limited basis if the commissioner determines that a participating
2.35 consortium requires a waiver in order to achieve demonstration project goals.

3.1 Subd. 6. **Quality measures.** (a) Community consortiums participating in the
3.2 demonstration project shall report information to the commissioner of human services
3.3 necessary to evaluate the demonstration project, in the form and manner specified by
3.4 the commissioners. The information collected by the commissioner must include both
3.5 process and outcome measures, including but not limited to measures related to enrollee
3.6 satisfaction, service delivery, service coordination, service access, use of technology,
3.7 individual outcomes, and costs.

3.8 (b) Participating consortiums shall identify state policies that limit the extent to
3.9 which project goals can be achieved and recommend necessary changes to the appropriate
3.10 state agencies.

3.11 Subd. 7. **Community consortium account; financing.** (a) The commissioner
3.12 of finance shall establish a community consortium account in the general fund for the
3.13 purpose of collecting funds for distribution to the selected community consortiums. Funds
3.14 must be collected from the following existing grant programs within the Departments
3.15 of Health and Human Services and must be transferred as follows to the community
3.16 consortium account prior to awarding of the demonstration grants:

3.17 (1) ten percent of any funds appropriated for the biennium ending June 30, 2011,
3.18 for the nursing home moratorium exceptions process under Minnesota Statutes, section
3.19 144A.073;

3.20 (2) ten percent of the funds appropriated for the biennium ending June 30, 2011, for
3.21 community services development grants under Minnesota Statutes, section 256.9754; and

3.22 (3) ten percent of the funds appropriated for the biennium ending June 30, 2011,
3.23 for nursing facility performance grants under Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.434,
3.24 subdivision 4, paragraph (d).

3.25 (b) Money in the community consortium account may be used by the commissioner
3.26 of human services to provide grants to participating community consortiums.

3.27 (c) Funds available from closure of nursing facility beds within a demonstration site
3.28 may be used by the consortium to fund consortium-related activities if the closed beds
3.29 have not been claimed as a planned closure rate adjustment under Minnesota Statutes,
3.30 section 256B.437.

3.31 Subd. 8. **Evaluation and report.** The commissioner of human services, in
3.32 cooperation with the commissioners of health and housing finance, shall evaluate the
3.33 demonstration project, and report findings and recommendations to the legislature by
3.34 November 15, 2011, on whether the demonstration project should be continued and
3.35 whether the number of demonstration project sites increased. The evaluation and report
3.36 must include:

- 4.1 (1) a comparison of the performance of demonstration sites relative to nonconsortium
4.2 communities on the quality measures specified in subdivision 6;
- 4.3 (2) an assessment of the extent to which the demonstration project can be
4.4 successfully expanded to other parts of the state; and
- 4.5 (3) legislative changes necessary to improve the effectiveness of the demonstration
4.6 project and to expand the projects to other parts of the state.