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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-SIXTH SESSION

HOUSE FILE NO. 651

February 9, 2009
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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Health Care and Human Services Policy and Oversight

A bill for an act

relating to human services; establishing a health and human services finance board; authorizing rulemaking; designating the board to receive general fund appropriations; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 256.

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

Section 1. **[256.0122] HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES FINANCE BOARD.**

Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** The governor, by August 1, 2009, shall appoint a 25-member health and human services finance board. The board shall consist of: ten members representing state agencies administering health and human services programs, including five members from administrative and managerial positions and five members representing staff from nonadministrative or nonmanagerial positions; five members representing nonprofit organizations and agencies; and ten members representing counties, including five members from administrative and managerial positions and five members representing staff from nonadministrative or nonmanagerial positions. The commissioners of human services and health shall provide staffing, administrative support, and office space for the board out of existing funds of the operations budget. The board is governed by section 15.0575.

Subd. 2. **Duties.** The board shall manage the functions and services for health and human services programs receiving general fund appropriations, and shall ensure that aggregate spending for those programs remains within the targets specified in this section, by:

(1) increasing the efficiency of service delivery;

(2) increasing cooperation and coordination between state agencies, counties, and nonprofit organizations;

(3) innovating methods of delivering services;

(4) if necessary, reducing spending and eligibility for health and human services programs; and

(5) consolidating or eliminating specific programs.

Subd. 3. **Administering spending targets.** During each fiscal year, beginning with fiscal year 2011, the board shall manage spending on health and human services programs receiving general fund appropriations to ensure that the annual aggregate spending growth for these programs for the next fiscal year does not exceed spending for the previous fiscal year plus a three percent annual growth rate or another rate established by law. The annual spending growth for specific programs may differ from this aggregate spending target.

Subd. 4. **Authority; rulemaking.** Actions taken by the board that are supported by at least 75 percent of board members have the force of law and shall be implemented by the appropriate state agencies. The board shall regularly report actions taken to implement this section to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committee with jurisdiction over health and human services policy and finance. The board may adopt rules necessary under chapter 14 to implement this subdivision, and may adopt exempt rules under section 14.386, except that the rules adopted shall not expire.