

**HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT[441]**

**Notice of Intended Action**

**Twenty-five interested persons, a governmental subdivision, an agency or association of 25 or more persons may demand an oral presentation hereon as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4(1)“b.”**

**Notice is also given to the public that the Administrative Rules Review Committee may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this proposed action under section 17A.8(6) at a regular or special meeting where the public or interested persons may be heard.**

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 234.6(4), the Department of Human Services proposes to amend Chapter 65, “Food Assistance Program Administration,” Iowa Administrative Code.

These amendments reflect approval of an extension of a demonstration project by the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) to allow for a standard medical expense deduction to Food Assistance households eligible to claim medical expenses as a deduction. To attain cost neutrality as necessary, the calculation of the standard utility allowances for both households with heating or air-conditioning expenses and households with only other utility expenses is amended. Originally, a \$4 decrease to each standard utility allowance (SUA) was necessary. With more households choosing the standard utility allowance, Iowa must account for greater savings. Decreasing the SUAs by an additional dollar is a condition of approval for the extension.

These amendments ensure that the Department is compliant with the terms of the extension approval. With increasing numbers of households using the standard medical deduction, the additional savings resulting from lower SUA amounts is necessary to achieve the required cost neutrality.

Any interested person may make written comments on the proposed amendments on or before August 27, 2013. Comments should be directed to Harry Rossander, Bureau of Policy Coordination, Department of Human Services, Hoover State Office Building, 1305 East Walnut Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0114. Comments may be sent by fax to (515)281-4980 or by e-mail to [policyanalysis@dhs.state.ia.us](mailto:policyanalysis@dhs.state.ia.us).

These amendments do not provide for waivers in specified situations because requests for the waiver of any rule may be submitted under the Department’s general rule on exceptions at 441—1.8(17A,217). After analysis and review of this rule making, no impact on jobs has been found.

These amendments are intended to implement Iowa Code section 234.12.

The following amendments are proposed.

ITEM 1. Amend paragraph **65.8(1)“b”** as follows:

*b.* Effective October 1, ~~2007~~ 2013, ~~two~~ five dollars will be subtracted from this amount to allow for cost neutrality necessary for the standard medical expense deduction. ~~Effective October 1, 2008, an additional two dollars, for a total of four dollars, will be subtracted from this amount to achieve continued cost neutrality.~~

ITEM 2. Amend paragraph **65.8(5)“b”** as follows:

*b.* Effective October 1, ~~2007~~ 2013, ~~two~~ five dollars will be subtracted from this amount to allow for cost neutrality necessary for the standard medical expense deduction. ~~Effective October 1, 2008, an additional two dollars, for a total of four dollars, will be subtracted from this amount to achieve continued cost neutrality.~~