



[HF 2462](#) – Medicaid Efficiency (LSB5317HV.1)
Analyst: Jess Benson (515.689.0598) jess.benson@legis.iowa.gov
Fiscal Note Version – As amended and passed by the House

Description

[House File 2462](#) as amended makes various changes to the administration and oversight of the Heathy and Well Kids in Iowa (*hawk-i*) and Medicaid programs. The changes and the fiscal impacts are listed below by Division.

Divisions I and II

Description

Division I transfers responsibility for the managed care capitation process and member premium collection from the administrative contractor to the Department of Human Services (DHS), to be administered through the Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME).

Division II requires the DHS to suspend the eligibility of individuals following the first 30 days of the individuals' commitment to an institution. The Bill also requires public institutions to provide a monthly report of the inmates who are committed and of those who are discharged to the DHS and to the Social Security Administration.

Assumptions

- The changes required in Divisions I and II are estimated to require 6,813 staff contract hours at \$105 per hour to update various systems. Details of the number of contract hours necessary to update each system are listed below in **Table 1**.
- The federal match rate for the data warehouse, medical systems, and Eligibility Integrated Application Solution (ELIAS) system is 93.94% federal and 6.06% State.
- The federal match rate for the income maintenance system is 85.79% federal and 14.21% State.
- The DHS does not believe the Department will be able to implement Division I in FY 2019; therefore, the fiscal impact will begin with FY 2020.

Fiscal Impact

Division I and II of the Bill are estimated to increase General Fund expenditures by \$6,000 in FY 2019 and approximately \$49,000 in FY 2020.

Table 1 — Divisions I and II Fiscal Impact

Systems Changes – Division I	Contract Hours	Hourly Rate	Total Cost	State Cost
Data Warehouse	500	\$ 105	\$ 52,500	\$ 3,182
Medical Systems	1,600	105	168,000	10,181
Income Maintenance	1,000	105	105,000	14,921
ELIAS	3,333	105	350,000	21,210
Total			\$ 675,500	\$ 49,494
Systems Changes – Division II	Contract Hours	Hourly Rate	Total Cost	State Cost
Income Maintenance	380	\$ 105	\$ 39,900	\$ 5,670

Note: Totals may not sum due to rounding.

Division III

Description

Provider Processes and Procedures

- Specifies that when all of the required documents and other information necessary to process a claim have been received by a managed care organization (MCO), the MCO is required to provide payment to the claimant within the timeline specified if the claim is approved. If the MCO is denying the claim in whole or in part, the MCO is required to provide notice to the claimant, including the reasons for the denial, in a manner consistent with national industry best practice guidelines.
- Requires an MCO to correct any errors it finds due to system configuration and fully reprocess the claims affected by the error within 90 days of the discovery.
- Requires the DHS to develop and use standardized Medicaid provider enrollment forms.
- Requires the DHS to develop and implement uniform Medicaid provider credentialing standards to be used by the MCOs. The credentialing process is deemed to begin when the MCO has received all necessary credentialing materials from the provider and is deemed to have ended when written communication is mailed or faxed to the provider notifying the provider of the MCO's decision.

Members Services and Processes

- Specifies that if a Medicaid member prevails in a review or appeal regarding the provision of services by an MCO, the services subject to the review or appeal are required to be extended for a period of time determined by the Director of the DHS. However, services are not required to be extended if there is a change in the member's condition that warrants a change in services as determined by the member's interdisciplinary team, there is a change in the member's eligibility status as determined by the DHS, or the member voluntarily withdraws from services.
- Specifies that if a Medicaid member is receiving court-ordered services or treatment for a substance-related disorder pursuant to Iowa Code chapter [125](#) or for a mental illness pursuant to Iowa Code chapter [229](#), the services or treatment are required to be provided and reimbursed for an initial period of five days before an MCO may apply medical necessity criteria to determine the most appropriate services, treatment, or placement for the Medicaid member.
- Specifies the DHS is to review and have approval authority for a Medicaid member's level of care reassessment that indicates a decrease in the level of care. Managed care organizations are required to comply with the findings of the DHS review. If a level of care reassessment indicates there is no change in a Medicaid member's level of care needs, the Medicaid member's existing level of care will be continued.
- Requires the DHS to maintain and update Medicaid member eligibility files in a timely manner consistent with national industry best practices.

Medicaid Program Review and Oversight

- Requires the DHS to facilitate a workgroup, in collaboration with representatives of the MCOs and health home providers, to review the health home programs. The Bill as amended requires the DHS to submit a report of the workgroup's findings and recommendations by December 15, 2018, to the Governor and the General Assembly.
- Requires the DHS, in collaboration with Medicaid providers and MCOs, to initiate a review process to determine the effectiveness of prior authorizations used by the MCOs, with the goal of making adjustments based on relevant service costs and member outcomes data.
- Requires the DHS to enter into a contract with an independent auditor to perform an audit of small dollar claims paid to or denied Medicaid long-term services and supports providers. The Bill specifies that the DHS may take any action specified in the MCO contract relative to

any claim the auditor determines to be incorrectly paid or denied, subject to appeal by the MCO to the Director of the DHS.

Assumptions

Provider Processes and Procedures

- The provisions in subsections 1a, 1b, and 1c are either current practice or are not estimated to have any additional impact to the State.

Members Services and Processes

- For subsection 2a, it is estimated there will be 4,000 reviews that the Director of the DHS will be required to evaluate to determine the period of time in which a service may be received if a Medicaid member prevails in a review or appeal, and it is estimated that each review will cost \$40 in staff time.
- For subsection 2b, it is estimated that 20.0% of cases (600 cases) will result in court-ordered services that are not medically necessary. It is assumed that the court order will be lifted, or the Medicaid Program will not be responsible for payment on day five when services are not medically necessary. The total estimated cost per case is \$6,700.
- For subsection 2c, giving the DHS the authority to review and have approval authority for a Medicaid member's level of care reassessment that indicates a decrease in the level of care is not expected to have an impact on current MCO capitation rates because current Program experience is built into the capitation rates. On average, the DHS is currently overruling half of the long-term services and supports (LTSS) level of care determinations the Department reviews. Given this, the provision may impact possible savings to future MCO capitation rates due to a lower level of care being provided to LTSS and Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waiver populations.
- The Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) rate for FY 2019 and FY 2020 is 59.57% federal and 40.43% State.

Medicaid Program Review and Oversight

- Subsection 3a, requiring the DHS to facilitate a workgroup to review the health home programs, will have no fiscal impact because current MCO capitation rates include the cost of health homes.
- Subsection 3b, requiring the DHS to initiate a review process to determine the effectiveness of prior authorizations used by the MCOs, may have a fiscal impact, but any potential impact will depend on the results of the review.
- For subsection 3c, it is estimated that the independent auditor the DHS contracts with to review claims under \$2,500 will be required to review a majority of the approximately 7,000,000 approved claims and 4,000,000 denied claims paid annually. Additionally, if clinical records are needed to review the accuracy of payment, audit costs could increase significantly.
- The administrative match rate is 50.0% federal and 50.0% State.

Fiscal Impact

Division III of the Bill as amended is estimated to increase General Fund expenditures by \$4.7 million in FY 2019 and FY 2020. In addition, the provision giving the DHS the authority to review and have approval authority for a Medicaid member's level of care reassessment may impact future Medicaid Program savings. The provisions with a fiscal impact are listed in **Table 2** below.

Table 2 — Division III Fiscal Impact

Activities – Division III	Total Cost	State Cost
Director Review – Length of Services	\$ 160,000	\$ 65,488
Non-Medically Necessary Court-Ordered Services	4,020,000	1,645,386
Small Dollar Claims Audit	6,000,000	3,000,000
Total Activities – Division III	\$ 10,180,000	\$ 4,710,874

Divisions IV, V, and VI

Description

Division IV eliminates the various copayments for a covered prescription drug under the Medicaid Program and instead provides that a recipient of Medicaid is required to pay a copayment of \$1 on each prescription filled or refilled for a covered prescription drug.

Division V directs the Executive Committee of the Medical Assistance Advisory Council (MAAC) to review data collected and analyzed in periodic reports to the General Assembly to determine which data points should be included and analyzed to more accurately identify trends and issues with, and promote the effective and efficient administration of, Medicaid managed care for all stakeholders. The Executive Committee is required to report its findings and recommendations to the MAAC for review and comment by October 1, 2018, and to submit a final report to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 31, 2018.

Division VI amends the reimbursement provision for targeted case management (TCM) services under the Medicaid Program, which is currently established as cost-based reimbursement for 100.0% of the reasonable costs for provision of the services. Under the Bill, effective July 1, 2018, TCM services will instead be reimbursed based on a statewide fee schedule amount developed by rule of the DHS in accordance with Iowa Code chapter [17A](#). The Division also amends the reimbursement provisions for psychiatric medical institutions for children (PMICs) to provide that inpatient psychiatric services for individuals under 21 years of age provided by non-State-owned providers are required to be reimbursed according to a fee schedule without reconciliation, and for services provided by State-owned providers are required to be reimbursed at 100.0% of the actual and allowable cost of providing the service.

Assumptions

- The changes to the Medicaid copayments in Division IV have been in place since December 2015 due to federal requirements. The conforming State changes will have no fiscal impact to the State.
- The rate changes for TCM services and PMICs will be developed so that they are budget neutral and will have no fiscal impact to the State.

Fiscal Impact

Divisions IV through VI of the Bill have no fiscal impact.

Summary of Fiscal Impacts

[House File 2462](#) as amended and passed by the House is estimated to increase General Fund expenditures by \$4.7 million in FY 2019 and \$4.8 million in FY 2020. **Table 3** below lists the fiscal impact by Division.

Table 3 — Summary of General Fund Fiscal Impacts FY 2019 and FY 2020

Fiscal Impact by Division	FY 2019	FY 2020
Division I	\$ 0	\$ 49,494
Division II	5,670	0
Division III	4,710,874	4,710,874
Division IV	0	0
Division V	0	0
Division VI	0	0
Total	\$ 4,716,544	\$ 4,760,368

Sources

Department of Human Services
LSA analysis

/s/ Holly M. Lyons

March 20, 2018

The fiscal note for this Bill was prepared pursuant to Joint Rule 17 and the Iowa Code. Data used in developing this fiscal note is available from the Fiscal Services Division of the Legislative Services Agency upon request.
