

**House File 296 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 296

BY FRY

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the enrollment process for Medicaid home and  
2 community-based services waivers.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. ENROLLMENT PROCESS FOR MEDICAID HOME AND  
2 COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES WAIVERS. The department of human  
3 services shall modify the enrollment process for Medicaid  
4 home and community-based services waivers to require that an  
5 applicant for a Medicaid home and community-based services  
6 waiver complete the eligibility prescreening, level of  
7 care assessment, and financial review, to more definitively  
8 determine if the applicant is eligible for Medicaid and  
9 the type of waiver that will most appropriately address the  
10 individual's needs, prior to an income maintenance worker  
11 requesting a waiver slot or placing the individual on a waiver  
12 waiting list. The department shall evaluate the modified  
13 enrollment process to determine if the process results in  
14 reduced numbers of individuals on home and community-based  
15 services waiver waiting lists and a more appropriate provision  
16 of waiver services.

17 EXPLANATION

18 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
19 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

20 This bill requires the department of human services  
21 (DHS) to modify the enrollment process for Medicaid home and  
22 community-based services (HCBS) waivers.

23 Currently, the enrollment process allows an applicant, based  
24 only on the positive results of a prescreening for eligibility  
25 for Medicaid, to request a waiver slot and, if a slot is not  
26 available, to be placed on an HCBS waiver waiting list. Once a  
27 waiver slot is available, the individual then undergoes a level  
28 of care (LOC) assessment and a financial review, at which point  
29 the applicant may be approved for or denied the waiver services  
30 based on the results of either the LOC assessment or financial  
31 review.

32 Under the bill, the enrollment process is modified  
33 to require that a new applicant for HCBS waiver services  
34 shall complete the eligibility prescreening, level of care  
35 assessment, and financial review, all prior to requesting

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1 a waiver slot or being placed on a waiver waiting list, to  
2 more definitively determine if the applicant is eligible for  
3 Medicaid and the type of waiver that will most appropriately  
4 address the individual's needs. The bill requires DHS to  
5 evaluate the modified enrollment process to determine if it  
6 results in reduced numbers of individuals on HCBS waiver  
7 waiting lists and more appropriate provision of waiver  
8 services.