

House File 573 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 573

BY BROWN-POWERS, WOLFE, STAED,
WINCKLER, KRESSIG, EHLERT,
WILBURN, HANSEN, HUNTER,
JAMES, and MASCHER

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the minimum per hour wage provided to home
2 health aides under the Medicaid program, and making an
3 appropriation.

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

1 Section 1. MEDICAID PROGRAM — HOME HEALTH AIDES — MINIMUM
2 HOURLY WAGE. For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021,
3 and ending June 30, 2022, the department of human services
4 shall continue to base home health agency reimbursement rates
5 on the Medicare low utilization payment adjustment (LUPA)
6 methodology with state geographic wage adjustments, but shall
7 adjust the labor portion and the adjusted wage rate of the
8 LUPA methodology to provide a minimum per hour wage of fifteen
9 dollars and twenty cents to home health aides.

10 Sec. 2. MEDICAID PROGRAM — HOME HEALTH AIDES MINIMUM HOURLY
11 WAGE — APPROPRIATION. There is appropriated from the general
12 fund of the state to the department of human services for the
13 fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2022, a
14 sufficient amount to provide reimbursement under the Medicaid
15 program to home health aides providing home health program
16 services and home and community-based services waiver services
17 at a minimum per hour wage of fifteen dollars and twenty cents
18 as provided in this Act.

19 EXPLANATION

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

22 This bill provides that for FY 2021-2022, the department
23 of human services (DHS) shall continue to reimburse home
24 health agencies utilizing the Medicare low utilization payment
25 adjustment (LUPA) methodology with state geographic wage
26 adjustments, but shall adjust the labor and adjusted wage rate
27 portions of the LUPA methodology to provide a minimum per hour
28 wage of \$15.20 to home health aides.

29 The bill also appropriates a sufficient amount from the
30 general fund of the state to DHS for FY 2021-2022 to provide
31 the minimum hourly rate to home health aides under the Medicaid
32 program as specified in the bill.