

CHAPTER 36

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING, HOMEMAKER—HOME
HEALTH AND LOW INCOME ELDERLY

H. F. 597

AN ACT to appropriate funds to the department of health for the purpose of extending public health nursing services, visiting nurse services, and homemaker-home health aide services to additional low-income elderly persons.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Section 1.

1. There is appropriated from the general fund of the state for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1977 and ending June 30, 1978 to the department of health one million six hundred thousand (1,600,000) dollars to be used to extend availability of public health nursing services or visiting nurse services and home health aide services to additional elderly persons in this state.

2. The department may retain not to exceed one percent of the amount appropriated by this section, to be used to pay the costs of administering this section. The remainder shall be allocated for use in the several counties of the state as follows:

a. One-fourth of the total amount to be allocated shall be divided so that an equal amount is available for use in each county in the state; and

b. Three-fourths of the total amount to be allocated shall be divided so that the share available for use in each county is proportionate to the number of elderly persons living in that county in relation to the total number of elderly persons living in the state.

3. The department shall make the money allocated for use in each county under subsection two (2) of this section available to be expended in that county as follows:

a. The local board of health having jurisdiction, after consultation with any other agencies which provide either public health nursing service, visiting nurse service, or homemaker-home health aide service in the jurisdiction, shall prepare a proposal for the use of the funds available for that jurisdiction which will provide the maximum benefits of expanded home health care to the elderly persons in the jurisdiction. After approval of the proposal by the department, the department shall enter into a contract with

the local board of health. The local board of health may subcontract with any nonprofit nurses' association, independent nonprofit agency, the department of social services or any suitable local governmental body to use the funds to expand nursing or homemaker-home health aide services.

b. It is the intent of the general assembly that local boards of health or subcontracting agencies not use any of the funds received under such contracts to replace, directly or indirectly, funds previously received either from taxes levied by the county or from other sources and used to pay all or any part of the cost of a public health nursing program, visiting nurses' services or homemaker-home health aide services maintained in that county.

4. If the department has by November 30, 1977 been unable to conclude contracts for use in any county or counties of the funds allocated under this section for use therein, the funds so allocated shall be considered an unallocated pool. The department shall prior to December 31, 1977 reallocate any funds in such an unallocated pool among those counties with respect to which the department has concluded contracts under subsection three (3) of this section. The reallocation shall be made in substantially the manner prescribed by subsection two (2) of this section, and the funds shall be available for use in the counties to which they are so reallocated during the period beginning January 1, 1978 and ending June 30, 1978.

5. Any of the funds appropriated by this section and allocated or reallocated for use in a county in this state with respect to which the department has concluded a contract under subsection three (3) of this section, shall remain available for use in that county during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1978 and ending June 30, 1979, pursuant to all applicable requirements of this section. The balance of those funds retained by the department for administrative purposes, as authorized by subsection two (2) of this section, which remains unexpended on June 30, 1978 shall revert to the general fund of the state as provided by section eight point thirty-three (8.33) of the Code.

Sec. 2. For the purposes of this Act, an "elderly person" is one who is sixty years of age or older.

Sec. 3. The department of health shall within thirty days after the effective date of this Act promulgate rules not contrary to this Act defining eligibility for public health

nursing services and for homemaker-home health aide services paid for by funds appropriated by this Act, and imposing a sliding fee scale for those persons deemed able to pay all or a portion of the cost of such services.

Sec. 4. The department of health shall prepare a report containing a critical evaluation of the programs funded under this Act, including quantitative measures of the level of services provided, proportion of the eligible population served, and the number of elderly in health care facilities before and after the programs funded under this Act were implemented. An interim report shall be submitted to the second session of the Sixty-seventh General Assembly not later than thirty days after its convening, and a final report shall be submitted to the first session of the Sixty-eighth General Assembly not later than thirty days after its convening.

Sec. 5. The department of social services is authorized to reallocate not more than fifty-five existing vacancies to the employment category of homemaker, for the purpose of expanding homemaker services in the counties where it is provided directly by the department of social services and thereby facilitating implementation of this Act. It is the intent of the general assembly that the department of social services employ additional persons as homemakers on a less than full-time basis, as necessary to insure the widest possible availability of homemaker services in this state, so long as the total number of vacancies reallocated to homemaker positions and filled does not exceed the equivalent of fifty-five full-time positions.
Approved July 10, 1977

CHAPTER 37

SOCIAL SERVICES

H. F. 464

AN ACT relating to the administration and financing of current programs under the jurisdiction of the department of social services and to funding of capital improvement projects including capital improvement projects recommended by the advisory commission on corrections relief.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa: