

Sixty-fifth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

REENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1115

Introduced by

Human Services Committee

(At the request of the Department of Human Services)

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new subsection to section 50-24.4-15 of the North
2 Dakota Century Code, relating to actual allowable historical property costs; to amend and
3 reenact subsection 1 of section 23-09.3-01.1, subsection 1 of section 23-16-01.1, subsection 3
4 of section 50-24.4-06; subsection 6 of section 50-24.4-07; section 50-24.4-10; and subsection 1
5 of 50-24.4-19 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the moratoria on basic care and
6 nursing facility bed capacity and ratesetting for nursing homes.

7 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

8 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 1 of section 23-09.3-01.1 of the North Dakota
9 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

- 10 1. Basic care beds may not be added to the state's licensed bed capacity during the
11 period between August 1, ~~2015~~2017, and July 31, ~~2017~~2019, except when:
 - 12 a. A nursing facility converts nursing facility beds to basic care;
 - 13 b. An entity licenses bed capacity transferred as basic care bed capacity under
14 section 23-16-01.1;
 - 15 c. An entity demonstrates to the state department of health and the department of
16 human services that basic care services are not readily available within a
17 designated area of the state or that existing basic care beds within a fifty-mile
18 [80.47-kilometer] radius have been occupied at ninety percent or more for the
19 previous twelve months. In determining whether basic care services will be
20 readily available if an additional license is issued, preference may be given to an
21 entity that agrees to any participation program established by the department of
22 human services for individuals eligible for services under the medical assistance
23 program under title XIX of the Social Security Act [42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.];

1 d. The state department of health and the department of human services grant a
2 short-term license to allow an individual to transition from an assisted living bed
3 to a basic care bed at the same facility; or

4 ~~d.e.~~ The state department of health and the department of human services grant
5 approval of new basic care beds to an entity. The approved entity shall license
6 the beds within forty-eight months from the date of approval.

7 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 1 of section 23-16-01.1 of the North Dakota
8 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

9 1. Notwithstanding sections 23-16-06 and 23-16-10, except when a facility reverts basic
10 care beds to nursing facility beds or relicenses nursing facility beds delicensed after
11 July 31, 2011, nursing facility beds may not be added to the state's licensed bed
12 capacity during the period between August 1, ~~2015~~2017, and July 31, ~~2017~~2019. A
13 nursing facility may not delicense nursing facility bed capacity, relicense nursing facility
14 bed capacity, convert licensed nursing bed capacity to basic care bed capacity, revert
15 licensed basic care bed capacity back to nursing facility bed capacity, or otherwise
16 reconfigure licensed nursing facility bed capacity more than one time in a
17 twelve-month period.

18 **SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 3 of section 50-24.4-06 of the North Dakota
19 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

20 3. For purposes of determining rates, the department shall:
21 a. Include, contingent upon approval of the medicaid state plan by the centers for
22 medicare and medicaid services, allowable bad debt expenses in an amount not
23 to exceed one hundred eighty days of resident care per year or an aggregate of
24 three hundred sixty days of resident care for any one individual; and
25 b. Include allowable bad debt expenses in the ~~property~~indirect care cost category in
26 the report year in which the bad debt is determined to be uncollectible with no
27 likelihood of future recovery.
28 c. Notwithstanding section 50-24.4-07, include as an allowable cost any tax paid by
29 a basic care or nursing facility due to provisions of the federal Patient Protection
30 and Affordable Care Act [Pub. L. 111-148], as amended by the Health Care and
31 Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 [Pub. L. 111-152].

1 **SECTION 4. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 6 of section 50-24.4-07 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

3 6. The facility shall report the education expense separately on the facility's cost report.
4 The expense is allowed as a ~~passthrough~~ in the indirect care cost category and is
5 limited only by the fifteen thousand dollar maximum per individual.

6 **SECTION 5. AMENDMENT.** Section 50-24.4-10 of the North Dakota Century Code is
7 amended and reenacted as follows:

8 **50-24.4-10. Operating costs.**

- 9 1. The department shall establish procedures for determining per diem reimbursement
10 for operating costs.
- 11 2. The department shall analyze and evaluate each nursing home's cost report of
12 allowable operating costs incurred by the nursing home during the reporting year
13 immediately preceding the rate year for which the payment rate becomes effective.
- 14 3. The department shall establish limits on actual allowable historical operating cost per
15 diems based on cost reports of allowable operating costs taking into consideration
16 relevant factors including resident needs, nursing hours necessary to meet resident
17 needs, size of the nursing home, and the costs that must be incurred for the care of
18 residents in an efficiently and economically operated nursing home. For the rate year
19 beginning 2006, the department shall establish limits for cost categories using the
20 June 30, 2003, cost report year as the base period. The limits may not fall below the
21 median of the most recent cost report. Until a new base period is established, the
22 department shall adjust the limits annually by the inflation rate for nursing home
23 services used to develop the legislative appropriation for the department. In
24 determining allowable historical operating cost per diems for purposes of setting limits
25 and nursing home payment rates, the department shall divide the allowable historical
26 operating costs by the actual number of resident days, except that when a nursing
27 home is occupied at less than ninety percent of licensed capacity days, the
28 department may establish procedures to adjust the computation of the indirect care
29 cost per diem to an imputed occupancy level at or below ninety percent. To encourage
30 the development of home and community-based services as an alternative to nursing
31 home care, the department may waive the imputed occupancy level requirements for a

1 nursing home that the department determines to be providing significant home and
2 community-based services in coordination with home and community-based service
3 providers to avoid duplicating existing services. The department shall establish
4 efficiency incentives for indirect care costs. The department may establish efficiency
5 incentives for different operating cost categories. The department shall consider
6 establishing efficiency incentives in care-related cost categories.

- 7 4. Each nursing home shall receive an operating cost payment rate equal to the sum of
8 the nursing home's operating cost payment rates for each operating cost category.
9 The operating cost payment rate for an operating cost category must be the lesser of
10 the nursing home's historical operating cost in the category increased by the inflation
11 rate for nursing home services used to develop the legislative appropriation for the
12 department for the operating cost category plus an efficiency incentive established
13 pursuant to subsection 3 or the limit for the operating cost category increased by the
14 same inflation rate. If a nursing home's actual historic operating costs are greater than
15 the prospective payment rate for that rate year, there may be no retroactive cost
16 settle-up. In establishing payment rates for one or more operating cost categories, the
17 department may establish separate rates for different classes of residents based on
18 their relative care needs.

- 19 5. a. The efficiency incentives to be established by the department pursuant to
20 subsection 3 for a facility with an actual rate below the limit rate for indirect care
21 costs must include the lesser of two dollars and sixty cents per resident day or
22 the amount determined by multiplying seventy percent times the difference
23 between the actual rate, exclusive of inflation rates, and the limit rate, exclusive
24 of current inflation rates. The efficiency incentive must be included as a part of
25 the indirect care cost rate.
- 26 b. Pursuant to subsection 3 and within the limits of legislative appropriations, the
27 department shall establish an indirect care cost category incentive for a nursing
28 home with an actual indirect care cost rate below the limit rate for indirect care
29 costs. The incentive must be included as part of the indirect care cost rate and
30 calculated as follows:

- 1 (1) The base year for each nursing home's indirect care limit rate is the 2016
2 reporting year;
- 3 (2) Annually, the base year limit must be adjusted by the inflation rate for
4 nursing home services used to develop the legislative appropriation for the
5 department; and
- 6 (3) The incentive is equal to half of the difference between the nursing home's
7 indirect care limit rate and the nursing home's actual indirect care cost per
8 diem that is under the nursing home's limit rate.
- 9 6. Each nursing home must receive an operating margin of at least three percent based
10 upon the lesser of the actual direct care and other direct care costs and the limit rate
11 prior to inflation. The operating margin will then be added to the rate for direct care
12 and other direct care cost categories.
- 13 7. AExcept as provided in subsections 5 and 8, a new base period must be established
14 at least every four years beginning with the cost report period June 30, 2006.
- 15 8. The department, pursuant to subsection 3, shall establish a direct care cost category
16 incentive based on nursing salaries and benefits and contract nursing staffing costs
17 within the direct care cost category for a nursing home with an actual rate below the
18 limit rate for direct care costs, within the limits of legislative appropriations, and
19 calculated as follows:
- 20 a. The base year for each nursing home's staffing limit rate is the 2016 reporting
21 year;
- 22 b. Annually, the base year limit must be adjusted by the inflation rate for nursing
23 home services used to develop the legislative appropriation for the department;
- 24 c. The incentive is equal to half of the difference between the nursing home's
25 staffing limit rate and the nursing home's actual staffing rate that is under the
26 nursing home's limit rate; and
- 27 d. The direct care operating margin will be added to the direct care cost category
28 rate.

29 **SECTION 6.** A new subsection to section 50-24.4-15 of the North Dakota Century Code is
30 created and enacted as follows:

1 For rate years beginning after December 31, 2017, the limitation on actual allowable
2 historical property costs per diem is sixty dollars for a nursing home licensed before
3 July 1, 2018. The limitation on actual allowable historical property costs per diem is
4 fifty dollars for a nursing home first licensed after June 30, 2018. Annually, the
5 department shall adjust the limits by the inflation rate for nursing home services used
6 to develop the legislative appropriation for the department.

7 **SECTION 7. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 1 of section 50-24.4-19 of the North Dakota
8 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

- 9 1. Charging private-paying residents rates for similar services which exceed those rates
10 which are approved by the department for medical assistance recipients, as
11 determined by the prospective desk audit rate, except under the following
12 circumstances: the nursing home may charge private-paying residents a property rate
13 that does not exceed the actual allowable historical property costs less the property
14 costs reimbursable under section 6 of this Act; and the nursing home may charge
15 private-paying residents a higher rate for a private room and charge for special
16 services which are not included in the daily rate if medical assistance residents are
17 charged separately at the same rate for the same services in addition to the daily rate
18 paid by the department of ~~human services~~. Services covered by the payment rate
19 must be the same regardless of payment source. Special services, if offered, must be
20 offered to all residents and charged separately at the same rate. Residents are free to
21 select or decline special services. Special services must not include services which
22 must be provided by the nursing home in order to comply with licensure or certification
23 standards and that if not provided would result in a deficiency or violation by the
24 nursing home. Services beyond those required to comply with licensure or certification
25 standards must not be charged separately as a special service if they were included in
26 the payment rate for the previous reporting year. A nursing home that charges a
27 private-paying resident a rate in violation of this chapter is subject to an action by the
28 state or any of its subdivisions or agencies for civil damages. A private-paying resident
29 or the resident's legal representative has a cause of action for civil damages against a
30 nursing home that charges the resident rates in violation of this chapter. The damages

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- 1 awarded shall include three times the payments that result from the violation, together
- 2 with costs and disbursements, including reasonable attorney's fees or their equivalent.