SECTION 48. NURSING FACILITY INCENTIVE PROGRAM – STUDY AND REPORT.

During the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027, the department of health and human services shall study **alternative payment structures** for the nursing facility incentive program, including the potential use of a withhold. The department shall conduct this study in collaboration with the long term care association and providers. The department shall not implement a nursing facility withhold during this biennium. The department shall report its findings and any recommended changes for consideration during the 2027-2029 biennium to the legislative management.

BASIC CARE - CORRECT ANNUAL UNRECOGNIZED INFLATION:

The department shall collaborate with basic care providers, long term care association, and two legislators to develop recommendations on applying the historical cost adjustment factor over the full 12-month period to recognize the timing delay in setting future rates. The department shall report its recommendations to the interim Human Services Committee by August 1, 2025.

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