

Proposed Amendment to Senate Bill 2012

Senator Burckhard

Developmental Disabilities

Appropriate an increase of 11% for all DD service payments made under the DD grants line item.

Narrative

The intention of this amendment is to increase the rates paid to providers for DD services.

The 11% correlates to the initial ask of \$1.88 to the beginning of the service rate on the "brick" ( the Rate Matrix). However, the ask of 11% is to include an increased payment to all services under the DD section.

In addition to the services on the DD Rate Matrix (Intermediate Care Facility, Residential Habilitation, Independent Habilitation, Day Programs, and Individual Employment), this would include those additional services not paid under the DD Rate Matrix (Infant Development, Family Support Services-In Home Supports, etc).

The increased payment to the providers will be used mainly for staff wages, but also for increased costs to health benefits for staff, increased costs for utilities and similar. As the providers are funded fully through Medicaid dollars, all costs are accounted for under this payment.

With the workforce crisis, the providers need to be competitive to attract and retain quality employees to provide care for North Dakota's most vulnerable citizens.