

## S.F. No. 1020 – Essential Community Supports Modification

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Section 1 (**256B.0922, subdivision 1**) Essential community supports (ECS) are available to older adults who do not qualify for medical assistance but do meet the financial eligibility requirements of the alternative care (AC) program without meeting the AC level of care requirements. ECS provides a modest budget and a limited set of elderly waiver services in order to allow older adults to age in place. **S.F. No. 1020** modifies the ECS program by clarifying that respite services are covered as a form of caregiver support, and by expanding the limited set of services available under the program to include adult companion services.

Section 2 (**Appropriation; Respite Services Grants**) continues the temporary funding for the respite services grants established in 2021 using enhanced federal home and community-based services funding.