



S.F. No. 2152 – Commissioner of Human Services establishment of a directed pharmacy dispensing payment to improve and maintain access to pharmaceutical services; appropriating money

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Bill Overview

S.F. 2152 requires the commissioner of human services to provide a directed pharmacy dispensing payment to certain outpatient retail pharmacies for prescriptions dispensed to individuals enrolled in Minnesota’s medical assistance program. The bill creates a new subdivision in Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.69, to require managed care plans and county-based purchasing plans, and any pharmacy benefit managers under contract with these entities, to pay this directed dispensing fee to eligible pharmacies. The new dispensing fee payment amount is \$4.50 per filled prescription, although the amount may be adjusted by the commissioner to reflect available funding. The bill also includes an appropriation of unspecified amounts in fiscal years 2026 and 2027 to fund these directed payments.

Section Summaries

Section 1 (adds Minn. Stat. § 256B.69, subd. 6i; Directed Pharmacy Dispensing Payment)

Paragraph (a) This paragraph requires the commissioner to establish a directed pharmacy dispensing payment of \$4.50 per filled prescription for “eligible outpatient retail pharmacies” in Minnesota. The payment is in addition to any other dispensing fee the pharmacy receives and must not result in any reduction of other payments.

Paragraph (b) This paragraph defines “eligible outpatient retail pharmacy” as a pharmacy licensed under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 151, that is not owned (directly or indirectly) by a licensed pharmacy benefit manager or health carrier and that: (1) is located in a medically underserved area or primarily serves a medically underserved population (as defined by the federal Health Resources and Services Administration); or (2) shares common ownership with 12 or fewer Minnesota pharmacies.

Paragraph (c) This paragraph requires a pharmacy to submit an attestation form, developed by the commissioner of human services, to qualify for the directed pharmacy dispensing payment.

Paragraph (d) This paragraph authorizes the commissioner of human services to adjust the directed pharmacy dispensing payment to account for available state and federal funding.

Paragraph (e) This paragraph requires managed care plans, county-based purchasing plans, and any pharmacy benefit managers under contract with these entities, to pay the directed pharmacy dispensing payment to eligible outpatient retail pharmacies. It further directs the commissioner to monitor this requirement's effect on access to pharmaceutical services, and provides that this subdivision expires if federal approval is not received.

Effective Date. This section is effective July 1, 2025, or upon federal approval, whichever is later. The commissioner must notify the revisor of statutes when federal approval is obtained.

Section 2 (Appropriation) This section appropriates unspecified amounts in fiscal years 2026 and 2027 from the general fund to the commissioner of human services to fund the directed pharmacy dispensing payments established in section 1 of the bill.



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