



## **S.F. No. 2109 (as proposed to be amended by the A-1 amendment) – Reimbursement rates provided by birth centers in the medical assistance program modification**

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### *Bill Overview*

**S.F. 2109** increases the reimbursement rate paid in the medical assistance program for facility services provided by a birth center. The current rate is the lower of billed charges or 70 percent of the statewide average for a facility payment rate made to a hospital for an uncomplicated vaginal birth. This bill would increase the rate to 100 percent of that statewide average. S.F. 2109 similarly increases the reimbursement rate for facility services provided to a newborn by a birth center from 70 percent of the statewide average paid for a hospital providing nursery care to 100 percent of the average.

Paragraph (e) of the bill expressly requires reimbursement for licensed health professionals in birth centers to be made for the full range of maternity and newborn care services within those professionals' scopes of practice, regardless of where those services are performed. The paragraph additionally requires the commissioner of human services to review the current birth center reimbursement and develop revisions to payment practices to ensure reimbursement for the full range of maternity and newborn care services.

