

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

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SENATE BILL DRS15161-MR-60*

Short Title: Establish New Payment Methodology/ACHs. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Hise, Krawiec, and Bishop (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO EXAMINE AND ESTABLISH A NEW PAYMENT METHODOLOGY FOR
3 ADULT CARE HOMES PROVIDING CARE TO NORTH CAROLINA MEDICAID
4 BENEFICIARIES THAT PROMOTES HEALTH AS WELL AS FAIR AND
5 REASONABLE COMPENSATION FOR THE SERVICES PROVIDED.

6 Whereas, approximately 30,000 adults reside in North Carolina's adult care homes;
7 and

8 Whereas, the average age of an adult care home resident is over 75 years old; and

9 Whereas, adult care homes provide care to some of North Carolina's most vulnerable
10 senior citizens; and

11 Whereas, adult care homes have not had a rate increase for State and county special
12 assistance since 2009; and

13 Whereas, the General Assembly recognizes that with Medicaid managed care there
14 are opportunities to explore new programs and payment methodologies that can provide a stable
15 and reliable funding stream to ensure access, choice, and quality of care within adult care homes;

16 Now, therefore,

17 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

18 **SECTION 1.** It is the intent of the General Assembly to provide funding to adult
19 care homes in the State in a manner that recognizes the importance of a stable and reliable funding
20 stream to ensure access, choice, and quality of care within the adult care home segment of the
21 care continuum. In furtherance of this intent, and as the North Carolina Medicaid program
22 transitions to a managed care delivery system, the Department of Health and Human Services is
23 directed to establish and convene a workgroup to evaluate reimbursement options under managed
24 care for adult care homes that considers all funding streams and to develop a service definition
25 or definitions under managed care that may accomplish this intent. The workgroup shall consist
26 of adult care home industry representatives and other relevant stakeholders. In development of
27 the service definition, the workgroup shall include all of the following components:

- 28 1) Support for alternative payment models, including pay-for-performance
29 initiatives, available under the State's 1115 Medicaid waiver and Medicaid
30 transformation.
- 31 2) Best practices for long-term services and supports.
- 32 3) Efficient payment methodologies.

33 **SECTION 2.** No later than October 1, 2020, the Department of Health and Human
34 Services shall submit a report on the new service definition to the Joint Legislative Oversight
35 Committee on Health and Human Services, the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on
36 Medicaid and NC Health Choice, and the Fiscal Research Division. After submission of this



- 1 report, DHHS shall submit to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services any amendments
2 to the NC Medicaid State Plan necessary to implement the new service definition.
3 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law.