

A bill for an act

relating to health; creating a self-directed health care pilot option to
MinnesotaCare; appropriating money; proposing coding for new law in
Minnesota Statutes, chapter 256L.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. **[256L.30] SELF-DIRECTED HEALTH CARE ACCOUNTS PILOT
PROGRAM.**

Subdivision 1. Creation of pilot program. The commissioner shall create
a self-directed health care accounts pilot program for up to persons who have
satisfied the eligibility standards under section 256L.04, the application procedures
under section 256L.05, the residency requirements under section 256L.09, the premium
requirements under section 256L.15, and the asset requirement under section 256L.17.
The commissioner shall enroll persons on a voluntary basis in this pilot program.

Subd. 2. Exemptions. An enrollee in the self-directed health care accounts program
is not subject to the requirements of section 256L.11 or the requirements of section
256L.12.

Subd. 3. Individual debit card accounts. Each enrollee shall receive an individual
debit card account and a corresponding debit card. For each enrollee in the pilot program,
the commissioner shall direct funds monthly into each individual's debit card account
in an amount equal to the average monthly capitated payment per covered life in the
MinnesotaCare program. The commissioner may contract with a private entity to carry
out the banking requirements of this subdivision.

Subd. 4. Covered services. The commissioner shall authorize the use of funds in
the debit card accounts by an enrollee for any covered health service, as described by

H.F. No. 3810, as introduced - 2007-2008th Legislative Session (2007-2008)

section 256L.03. No transaction shall be permitted or authorized by the commissioner for the purchase of goods or services that are not covered services. The commissioner may contract with a private entity to carry out the third-party administration, accounting, and fraud prevention requirements of this subdivision.

Subd. 5. **Provider payments.** An enrollee in the self-directed health care accounts program may choose to use their individual debit card to pay for any covered service under subdivision 4, when provided by a licensed provider. To participate in this program, a provider must have electronic billing capabilities. The commissioner shall make available to enrollees a list of providers with such capabilities.

Subd. 6. **Ombudsman.** The commissioner shall appoint an ombudsman for the self-directed health care accounts pilot program. The ombudsman shall provide assistance to enrollees in finding providers and with educational materials on the need and effectiveness of preventive treatment.

Subd. 7. **Federal approval.** The commissioner shall seek all federal waivers and approvals necessary to implement this section.

Subd. 8. **Sunset.** This pilot program is authorized for two years from the effective date of this section. Upon discontinuation of the pilot program, all enrollees shall be automatically enrolled in the MinnesotaCare program, subject to the requirements of chapter 256L.

Sec. 2. APPROPRIATION.

\$..... is appropriated from the health care access fund to the Department of Human Services for any administrative costs associated with the self-directed health care accounts pilot program.