

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS25614C1

This legislation will provide Idaho Medicaid the authority to operate a quality program for nursing facilities in order to promote improved participant outcomes and quality of services delivered. This legislation will also allow veterans nursing homes to receive an annual nursing facility adjustment payment.

Currently, Idaho Medicaid issues an assessment invoice to each privately operated skilled nursing facility based on revenue. These funds are used to pull down trustee and benefit monies to pay a facility the difference between the Federal Upper Payment Limit (FUPL), based on what Medicare would have paid, and what Medicaid paid based on the number of Medicaid days of service provided to participants for the year. This change will add objective quality criteria that a nursing facility needs to meet in order to qualify for the FUPL payment.

Quality program payments will also be incorporated into Medicaid's managed care programs, including Dual-Eligible Special Needs Plans (DSNPS) that offer integrated services to individuals that have both Medicare and Medicaid coverage. This would enable participating health plans to operate similar quality programs for nursing facilities in a managed care environment.

The Department is committed to working with stakeholders to ensure that facilities are not penalized for providing care to residents with complex or difficult needs. Program changes will be negotiated with stakeholders as needed to avoid inadvertently creating barriers to access for Idahoans who require skilled nursing level of care.

FISCAL NOTE

There is no fiscal impact because the same amount of assessment monies will be used to fund these quality payments.

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DISCLAIMER: This statement of purpose and fiscal note are a mere attachment to this bill and prepared by a proponent of the bill. It is neither intended as an expression of legislative intent nor intended for any use outside of the legislative process, including judicial review (Joint Rule 18).