

Subject Essential community supports

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## Overview

This bill modifies the essential community supports program by increasing the maximum monthly benefit limit to \$600 and expanding available services. The bill also transitions a temporary respite services grant program to an ongoing program and appropriates money for caregiver respite services for older adults with dementia.

The essential community supports program provides targeted services to persons age 65 and older who need essential community support, but whose needs do not meet the nursing home level of care.

## Summary

Section	Description
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1	<b>Caregiver respite services grants.</b>
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Creates § 256.9756.

**Subd. 1. Caregiver respite services grant program established.** Requires the commissioner of human services to establish a caregiver respite services grant program to increase the availability of respite services for family caregivers of people with dementia and older adults. Requires the commissioner to award grants on a competitive basis to respite services providers, giving priority to areas of the state where there is a high need for respite services.

**Subd. 2. Eligible uses.** Requires grant recipients to use a portion of the grant award to provide free or subsidized respite services.

**Subd. 3. Report.** Requires the commissioner to periodically submit a report on caregiver respite services grants to the legislature.

Section	Description
2	<p><b>Essential community supports.</b></p> <p>Amends § 256B.0922, subd. 1. Modifies the essential community supports program by increasing the maximum monthly benefit limit to \$600 and expanding available services to include respite care and companion services.</p>
3	<p><b>Direction to commissioner of human services; caregiver respite services grants.</b></p> <p>Requires the commissioner of human services to continue a temporary respite services grant program under the new program in section 256.9756. Authorizes the commissioner to begin the grant application process in fiscal year 2024 to facilitate continuity of the grant program during the transition from a temporary to a permanent program.</p>
4	<p><b>Appropriations; respite services grant.</b></p> <p>Appropriates \$2,000,000 fiscal year 2025 from the general fund to the commissioner of human services for caregiver respite services grants.</p>



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