

**Subject** Disability waiver rate system (DWRS)

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## Overview

This bill modifies the DWRS by: (1) removing respite services; (2) modifying the base wage index and standard component value adjustments by using more recent data and changing the timing of the adjustments; (3) modifying certain base wage index calculations; (4) requiring periodic adjustments to the competitive workforce factor; and (5) repealing a reporting requirement.

DWRS is Minnesota's uniform, statewide methodology to determine reimbursement rates for home and community-based services provided under the four Medical Assistance (MA) disability waivers: the community alternative care (CAC) waiver, the community access for disability inclusion (CADI) waiver, the developmental disability (DD) waiver, and the brain injury (BI) waiver.

## Summary

Section	Description
1	<p><b>Applicable services.</b></p> <p>Amends § 256B.4914, subd. 3. Modifies the list of applicable services under DWRS by removing respite services.</p> <p>Makes this section effective January 1, 2024, or upon federal approval, whichever is later. Requires the commissioner of human services to notify the revisor of statutes when federal approval is obtained.</p>
2	<p><b>Base wage index; establishment and updates.</b></p> <p>Amends § 256B.4914, subd. 5. Bases future updates of the base wage index on more current wage data and changes the timing of future updates.</p> <p>Makes this section effective January 1, 2024, or upon federal approval, whichever is later. Requires the commissioner of human services to notify the revisor of statutes when federal approval is obtained.</p>

Section	Description
3	<p data-bbox="318 264 716 289"><b>Base wage index; calculations.</b></p> <p data-bbox="318 310 1414 457">Amends § 256B.4914, subd. 5a. Sets a floor for the supervisory staff base wage equal to 130 percent of the total hourly direct support wage, including the competitive workforce factor. Modifies the base wage index calculation for employment exploration services staff. Removes the base wage index calculation for respite staff.</p> <p data-bbox="318 499 1414 604">Makes this section effective January 1, 2024, or upon federal approval, whichever is later. Requires the commissioner of human services to notify the revisor of statutes when federal approval is obtained.</p>
4	<p data-bbox="318 653 854 678"><b>Standard component value adjustments.</b></p> <p data-bbox="318 699 1414 762">Amends § 256B.4914, subd. 5b. Bases future updates to the standard component values on more recent inflation data and changes the timing of future updates.</p> <p data-bbox="318 804 1414 915">Makes this section effective January 1, 2024, or upon federal approval, whichever is later. Requires the commissioner of human services to notify the revisor of statutes when federal approval is obtained.</p>
5	<p data-bbox="318 963 886 989"><b>Competitive workforce factor adjustments.</b></p> <p data-bbox="318 1010 1414 1146">Amends § 256B.4914, by adding subd. 5f. Paragraph (a) requires the commissioner to update the competitive workforce factor on January 1, 2024, January 1, 2025, and every two years thereafter beginning on January 1, 2027, and specifies the information to be used and the calculation for the update.</p> <p data-bbox="318 1188 1414 1299">Paragraph (b) prohibits the update from decreasing the competitive workforce factor by more than two percentage points and prohibits the competitive workforce factor from being less than zero.</p> <p data-bbox="318 1341 1414 1446">Makes this section effective January 1, 2024, or upon federal approval, whichever is later. Requires the commissioner of human services to notify the revisor of statutes when federal approval is obtained.</p>
6	<p data-bbox="318 1495 1373 1558"><b>Unit-based services without programming; component values and calculation of payment rates.</b></p> <p data-bbox="318 1579 1414 1642">Amends § 256B.4914, subd. 9. Makes a conforming change by removing a reference to respite services.</p> <p data-bbox="318 1684 1414 1793">Makes this section effective January 1, 2024, or upon federal approval, whichever is later. Requires the commissioner of human services to notify the revisor of statutes when federal approval is obtained.</p>

Section	Description
7	<p data-bbox="316 262 446 300"><b>Repealer.</b></p> <p data-bbox="316 310 1433 499">Repeals Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.4914, subds. 9a (respite services; component values and calculation of payment rates) and 10c (reporting and analysis of competitive workforce factor), effective January 1, 2024, or upon federal approval, whichever is later. Requires the commissioner of human services to notify the revisor of statutes when federal approval is obtained.</p>



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