Z-0416.1

HOUSE BILL 1041

State of Washington 59th Legislature 2005 Regular Session

By Representative Sommers; by request of Office of Financial Management

Read first time 01/11/2005. Referred to Committee on Appropriations.

AN ACT Relating to the nursing facility medicaid payment system; amending RCW 74.46.431, 74.46.435, 74.46.437, 74.46.506, and 74.46.521; repealing RCW 74.46.433 and 74.46.439; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

Sec. 1. RCW 74.46.431 and 2004 c 276 s 913 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) Effective July 1, 1999, nursing facility medicaid payment rate allocations shall be facility-specific and shall have ((~~seven~~)) six components: Direct care, therapy care, support services, operations, property, and financing allowance((~~, and variable return~~)). The department shall establish and adjust each of these components, as provided in this section and elsewhere in this chapter, for each medicaid nursing facility in this state.

(2) All component rate allocations for essential community providers as defined in this chapter shall be based upon a minimum facility occupancy of eighty-five percent of licensed beds, regardless of how many beds are set up or in use. For all facilities other than essential community providers, effective July 1, 2001, component rate

allocations in direct care, therapy care, support services, ((~~variable return,~~)) operations, property, and financing allowance shall continue to be based upon a minimum facility occupancy of eighty-five percent of licensed beds. For all facilities other than essential community providers, effective July 1, 2002, the component rate allocations in operations, property, and financing allowance shall be based upon a minimum facility occupancy of ninety percent of licensed beds, regardless of how many beds are set up or in use.

(3) Information and data sources used in determining medicaid payment rate allocations, including formulas, procedures, cost report periods, resident assessment instrument formats, resident assessment methodologies, and resident classification and case mix weighting methodologies, may be substituted or altered from time to time as determined by the department.

(4)(a) Direct care component rate allocations shall be established using adjusted cost report data covering at least six months. Adjusted cost report data from 1996 will be used for October 1, 1998, through June 30, 2001, direct care component rate allocations; adjusted cost report data from 1999 will be used for July 1, 2001, through June 30, 2005, direct care component rate allocations.

(b) Direct care component rate allocations based on 1996 cost report data shall be adjusted annually for economic trends and conditions by a factor or factors defined in the biennial appropriations act. A different economic trends and conditions adjustment factor or factors may be defined in the biennial appropriations act for facilities whose direct care component rate is set equal to their adjusted June 30, 1998, rate, as provided in RCW 74.46.506(5)(i).

(c) Direct care component rate allocations based on 1999 cost report data shall be adjusted annually for economic trends and conditions by a factor or factors defined in the biennial appropriations act. A different economic trends and conditions adjustment factor or factors may be defined in the biennial appropriations act for facilities whose direct care component rate is set equal to their adjusted June 30, 1998, rate, as provided in RCW 74.46.506(5)(i).

(5)(a) Therapy care component rate allocations shall be established using adjusted cost report data covering at least six months. Adjusted

cost report data from 1996 will be used for October 1, 1998, through June 30, 2001, therapy care component rate allocations; adjusted cost report data from 1999 will be used for July 1, 2001, through June 30, 2005, therapy care component rate allocations.

(b) Therapy care component rate allocations shall be adjusted annually for economic trends and conditions by a factor or factors defined in the biennial appropriations act.

(6)(a) Support services component rate allocations shall be established using adjusted cost report data covering at least six months. Adjusted cost report data from 1996 shall be used for October 1, 1998, through June 30, 2001, support services component rate allocations; adjusted cost report data from 1999 shall be used for July 1, 2001, through June 30, 2005, support services component rate allocations.

(b) Support services component rate allocations shall be adjusted annually for economic trends and conditions by a factor or factors defined in the biennial appropriations act.

(7)(a) Operations component rate allocations shall be established using adjusted cost report data covering at least six months. Adjusted cost report data from 1996 shall be used for October 1, 1998, through June 30, 2001, operations component rate allocations; adjusted cost report data from 1999 shall be used for July 1, 2001, through June 30, 2005, operations component rate allocations.

(b) Operations component rate allocations shall be adjusted annually for economic trends and conditions by a factor or factors defined in the biennial appropriations act.

(8) For July 1, 1998, through September 30, 1998, a facility's property and return on investment component rates shall be the facility's June 30, 1998, property and return on investment component rates, without increase. For October 1, 1998, through June 30, 1999, a facility's property and return on investment component rates shall be rebased utilizing 1997 adjusted cost report data covering at least six months of data.

(9) Total payment rates under the nursing facility medicaid payment system shall not exceed facility rates charged to the general public for comparable services.

(10) Medicaid contractors shall pay to all facility staff a minimum

wage of the greater of the state minimum wage or the federal minimum wage.

(11) The department shall establish in rule procedures, principles, and conditions for determining component rate allocations for facilities in circumstances not directly addressed by this chapter, including but not limited to: The need to prorate inflation for partial-period cost report data, newly constructed facilities, existing facilities entering the medicaid program for the first time or after a period of absence from the program, existing facilities with expanded new bed capacity, existing medicaid facilities following a change of ownership of the nursing facility business, facilities banking beds or converting beds back into service, facilities temporarily reducing the number of set-up beds during a remodel, facilities having less than six months of either resident assessment, cost report data, or both, under the current contractor prior to rate setting, and other circumstances.

(12) The department shall establish in rule procedures, principles, and conditions, including necessary threshold costs, for adjusting rates to reflect capital improvements or new requirements imposed by the department or the federal government. Any such rate adjustments are subject to the provisions of RCW 74.46.421.

(13) Effective July 1, 2001, medicaid rates shall continue to be revised downward in all components, in accordance with department rules, for facilities converting banked beds to active service under chapter 70.38 RCW, by using the facility's increased licensed bed capacity to recalculate minimum occupancy for rate setting. However, for facilities other than essential community providers which bank beds under chapter 70.38 RCW, after May 25, 2001, medicaid rates shall be revised upward, in accordance with department rules, in direct care, therapy care, and support services((~~, and variable return~~)) components only, by using the facility's decreased licensed bed capacity to recalculate minimum occupancy for rate setting, but no upward revision shall be made to operations, property, or financing allowance component rates.

(14) Facilities obtaining a certificate of need or a certificate of need exemption under chapter 70.38 RCW after June 30, 2001, must have a certificate of capital authorization in order for (a) the depreciation resulting from the capitalized addition to be included in calculation of the facility's property component rate allocation; and

(b) the net invested funds associated with the capitalized addition to be included in calculation of the facility's financing allowance rate allocation.

Sec. 2. RCW 74.46.435 and 2001 1st sp.s. c 8 s 7 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) Effective July 1, 2001, the property component rate allocation for each facility shall be determined by dividing the sum of the reported allowable prior period actual depreciation, subject to RCW 74.46.310 through 74.46.380, adjusted for any capitalized additions or replacements approved by the department, and the retained savings from such cost center, by the greater of a facility's total resident days for the facility in the prior period or resident days as calculated on eighty-five percent facility occupancy. Effective July 1, 2002, the property component rate allocation for all facilities, except essential community providers, shall be set by using the greater of a facility's total resident days from the most recent cost report period or resident days calculated at ninety percent facility occupancy. If a capitalized addition or retirement of an asset will result in a different licensed bed capacity during the ensuing period, the prior period total resident days used in computing the property component rate shall be adjusted to anticipated resident day level.

(2) A nursing facility's property component rate allocation shall be rebased annually, effective July 1st, in accordance with this section and this chapter.

(3) When a certificate of need for a new facility is requested, the department, in reaching its decision, shall take into consideration per-bed land and building construction costs for the facility which shall not exceed a maximum to be established by the secretary.

(4) Effective July 1, 2001, for the purpose of calculating a nursing facility's property component rate, if a contractor has elected to bank licensed beds prior to April 1, 2001, or elects to convert banked beds to active service at any time, under chapter 70.38 RCW, the department shall use the facility's new licensed bed capacity to recalculate minimum occupancy for rate setting and revise the property component rate, as needed, effective as of the date the beds are banked or converted to active service. However, in no case shall the department use less than eighty-five percent occupancy of the

facility's licensed bed capacity after banking or conversion. Effective July 1, 2002, in no case, other than essential community providers, shall the department use less than ninety percent occupancy of the facility's licensed bed capacity after conversion.

(5) Effective July 1, 2005, each nursing facility's property component rate allocation as otherwise determined by this section shall be reduced by eight and one-half percent.

(6) The property component rate allocations calculated in accordance with this section shall be adjusted to the extent necessary to comply with RCW 74.46.421.

Sec. 3. RCW 74.46.437 and 2001 1st sp.s. c 8 s 8 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) Beginning July 1, 1999, the department shall establish for each medicaid nursing facility a financing allowance component rate allocation. The financing allowance component rate shall be rebased annually, effective July 1st, in accordance with the provisions of this section and this chapter.

(2) Effective July 1, 2001, the financing allowance shall be determined by multiplying the net invested funds of each facility by .10, and dividing by the greater of a nursing facility's total resident days from the most recent cost report period or resident days calculated on eighty-five percent facility occupancy. Effective July 1, 2002, the financing allowance component rate allocation for all facilities, other than essential community providers, shall be set by using the greater of a facility's total resident days from the most recent cost report period or resident days calculated at ninety percent facility occupancy. However, assets acquired on or after May 17, 1999, shall be grouped in a separate financing allowance calculation that shall be multiplied by .085. The financing allowance factor of .085 shall not be applied to the net invested funds pertaining to new construction or major renovations receiving certificate of need approval or an exemption from certificate of need requirements under chapter 70.38 RCW, or to working drawings that have been submitted to the department of health for construction review approval, prior to May 17, 1999. If a capitalized addition, renovation, replacement, or retirement of an asset will result in a different licensed bed capacity during the ensuing period, the prior period total resident days used in

computing the financing allowance shall be adjusted to the greater of the anticipated resident day level or eighty-five percent of the new licensed bed capacity. Effective July 1, 2002, for all facilities, other than essential community providers, the total resident days used to compute the financing allowance after a capitalized addition, renovation, replacement, or retirement of an asset shall be set by using the greater of a facility's total resident days from the most recent cost report period or resident days calculated at ninety percent facility occupancy.

(3) In computing the portion of net invested funds representing the net book value of tangible fixed assets, the same assets, depreciation bases, lives, and methods referred to in RCW 74.46.330, 74.46.350, 74.46.360, 74.46.370, and 74.46.380, including owned and leased assets, shall be utilized, except that the capitalized cost of land upon which the facility is located and such other contiguous land which is reasonable and necessary for use in the regular course of providing resident care shall also be included. Subject to provisions and limitations contained in this chapter, for land purchased by owners or lessors before July 18, 1984, capitalized cost of land shall be the buyer's capitalized cost. For all partial or whole rate periods after July 17, 1984, if the land is purchased after July 17, 1984, capitalized cost shall be that of the owner of record on July 17, 1984, or buyer's capitalized cost, whichever is lower. In the case of leased facilities where the net invested funds are unknown or the contractor is unable to provide necessary information to determine net invested funds, the secretary shall have the authority to determine an amount for net invested funds based on an appraisal conducted according to RCW 74.46.360(1).

(4) Effective July 1, 2001, for the purpose of calculating a nursing facility's financing allowance component rate, if a contractor has elected to bank licensed beds prior to May 25, 2001, or elects to convert banked beds to active service at any time, under chapter 70.38 RCW, the department shall use the facility's new licensed bed capacity to recalculate minimum occupancy for rate setting and revise the financing allowance component rate, as needed, effective as of the date the beds are banked or converted to active service. However, in no case shall the department use less than eighty-five percent occupancy of the facility's licensed bed capacity after banking or conversion.

Effective July 1, 2002, in no case, other than for essential community providers, shall the department use less than ninety percent occupancy of the facility's licensed bed capacity after conversion.

(5) Effective July 1, 2005, each nursing facility's financing allowance rate allocation as otherwise determined by this section shall be reduced by eight and one-half percent.

(6) The financing allowance rate allocation calculated in accordance with this section shall be adjusted to the extent necessary to comply with RCW 74.46.421.

Sec. 4. RCW 74.46.506 and 2001 1st sp.s. c 8 s 10 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) The direct care component rate allocation corresponds to the provision of nursing care for one resident of a nursing facility for one day, including direct care supplies. Therapy services and supplies, which correspond to the therapy care component rate, shall be excluded. The direct care component rate includes elements of case mix determined consistent with the principles of this section and other applicable provisions of this chapter.

(2) Beginning October 1, 1998, the department shall determine and update quarterly for each nursing facility serving medicaid residents a facility-specific per-resident day direct care component rate allocation, to be effective on the first day of each calendar quarter. In determining direct care component rates the department shall utilize, as specified in this section, minimum data set resident assessment data for each resident of the facility, as transmitted to, and if necessary corrected by, the department in the resident assessment instrument format approved by federal authorities for use in this state.

(3) The department may question the accuracy of assessment data for any resident and utilize corrected or substitute information, however derived, in determining direct care component rates. The department is authorized to impose civil fines and to take adverse rate actions against a contractor, as specified by the department in rule, in order to obtain compliance with resident assessment and data transmission requirements and to ensure accuracy.

(4) Cost report data used in setting direct care component rate

allocations shall be 1996 and 1999, for rate periods as specified in RCW 74.46.431(4)(a).

(5) Beginning October 1, 1998, the department shall rebase each nursing facility's direct care component rate allocation as described in RCW 74.46.431, adjust its direct care component rate allocation for economic trends and conditions as described in RCW 74.46.431, and update its medicaid average case mix index, consistent with the following:

(a) Reduce total direct care costs reported by each nursing facility for the applicable cost report period specified in RCW 74.46.431(4)(a) to reflect any department adjustments, and to eliminate reported resident therapy costs and adjustments, in order to derive the facility's total allowable direct care cost;

(b) Divide each facility's total allowable direct care cost by its adjusted resident days for the same report period, increased if necessary to a minimum occupancy of eighty-five percent; that is, the greater of actual or imputed occupancy at eighty-five percent of licensed beds, to derive the facility's allowable direct care cost per resident day;

(c) Adjust the facility's per resident day direct care cost by the applicable factor specified in RCW 74.46.431(4) (b) and (c) to derive its adjusted allowable direct care cost per resident day;

(d) Divide each facility's adjusted allowable direct care cost per resident day by the facility average case mix index for the applicable quarters specified by RCW 74.46.501(7)(b) to derive the facility's allowable direct care cost per case mix unit;

(e) Effective for July 1, 2001, rate setting, divide nursing facilities into at least two and, if applicable, three peer groups: Those located in nonurban counties; those located in high labor-cost counties, if any; and those located in other urban counties;

(f) Array separately the allowable direct care cost per case mix unit for all facilities in nonurban counties; for all facilities in high labor-cost counties, if applicable; and for all facilities in other urban counties, and determine the median allowable direct care cost per case mix unit for each peer group;

(g) Except as provided in (i) of this subsection, from October 1, 1998, through June 30, 2000, determine each facility's quarterly direct care component rate as follows:

(i) Any facility whose allowable cost per case mix unit is less than eighty-five percent of the facility's peer group median established under (f) of this subsection shall be assigned a cost per case mix unit equal to eighty-five percent of the facility's peer group median, and shall have a direct care component rate allocation equal to the facility's assigned cost per case mix unit multiplied by that facility's medicaid average case mix index from the applicable quarter specified in RCW 74.46.501(7)(c);

(ii) Any facility whose allowable cost per case mix unit is greater than one hundred fifteen percent of the peer group median established under (f) of this subsection shall be assigned a cost per case mix unit equal to one hundred fifteen percent of the peer group median, and shall have a direct care component rate allocation equal to the facility's assigned cost per case mix unit multiplied by that facility's medicaid average case mix index from the applicable quarter specified in RCW 74.46.501(7)(c);

(iii) Any facility whose allowable cost per case mix unit is between eighty-five and one hundred fifteen percent of the peer group median established under (f) of this subsection shall have a direct care component rate allocation equal to the facility's allowable cost per case mix unit multiplied by that facility's medicaid average case mix index from the applicable quarter specified in RCW 74.46.501(7)(c);

(h) Except as provided in (i) of this subsection, from July 1, 2000, forward, and for all future rate setting, determine each facility's quarterly direct care component rate as follows:

(i) ((~~Any facility whose allowable cost per case mix unit is less than ninety percent of the facility's peer group median established under (f) of this subsection shall be assigned a cost per case mix unit equal to ninety percent of the facility's peer group median, and shall have a direct care component rate allocation equal to the facility's assigned cost per case mix unit multiplied by that facility's medicaid average case mix index from the applicable quarter specified in RCW 74.46.501(7)(c);~~

~~(ii)~~)) Any facility whose allowable cost per case mix unit is greater than one hundred ten percent of the peer group median established under (f) of this subsection shall be assigned a cost per case mix unit equal to one hundred ten percent of the peer group median, and shall have a direct care component rate allocation equal to

the facility's assigned cost per case mix unit multiplied by that facility's medicaid average case mix index from the applicable quarter specified in RCW 74.46.501(7)(c);

((~~(iii)~~)) (ii) Any facility whose allowable cost per case mix unit is ((~~between ninety and~~)) equal to or below one hundred ten percent of the peer group median established under (f) of this subsection shall have a direct care component rate allocation equal to the facility's allowable cost per case mix unit multiplied by that facility's medicaid average case mix index from the applicable quarter specified in RCW 74.46.501(7)(c);

(i)(i) Between October 1, 1998, and June 30, 2000, the department shall compare each facility's direct care component rate allocation calculated under (g) of this subsection with the facility's nursing services component rate in effect on September 30, 1998, less therapy costs, plus any exceptional care offsets as reported on the cost report, adjusted for economic trends and conditions as provided in RCW 74.46.431. A facility shall receive the higher of the two rates.

(ii) Between July 1, 2000, and June 30, 2002, the department shall compare each facility's direct care component rate allocation calculated under (h) of this subsection with the facility's direct care component rate in effect on June 30, 2000. A facility shall receive the higher of the two rates. Between July 1, 2001, and June 30, 2002, if during any quarter a facility whose rate paid under (h) of this subsection is greater than either the direct care rate in effect on June 30, 2000, or than that facility's allowable direct care cost per case mix unit calculated in (d) of this subsection multiplied by that facility's medicaid average case mix index from the applicable quarter specified in RCW 74.46.501(7)(c), the facility shall be paid in that and each subsequent quarter pursuant to (h) of this subsection and shall not be entitled to the greater of the two rates.

(iii) Effective July 1, 2002, all direct care component rate allocations shall be as determined under (h) of this subsection.

(6) The direct care component rate allocations calculated in accordance with this section shall be adjusted to the extent necessary to comply with RCW 74.46.421.

(7) Payments resulting from increases in direct care component rates, granted under authority of RCW 74.46.508(1) for a facility's exceptional care residents, shall be offset against the facility's

examined, allowable direct care costs, for each report year or partial period such increases are paid. Such reductions in allowable direct care costs shall be for rate setting, settlement, and other purposes deemed appropriate by the department.

Sec. 5. RCW 74.46.521 and 2001 1st sp.s. c 8 s 13 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) The operations component rate allocation corresponds to the general operation of a nursing facility for one resident for one day, including but not limited to management, administration, utilities, office supplies, accounting and bookkeeping, minor building maintenance, minor equipment repairs and replacements, and other supplies and services, exclusive of direct care, therapy care, support services, property, financing allowance, and variable return.

(2) Beginning October 1, 1998, the department shall determine each medicaid nursing facility's operations component rate allocation using cost report data specified by RCW 74.46.431(7)(a). Effective July 1, 2002, operations component rates for all facilities except essential community providers shall be based upon a minimum occupancy of ninety percent of licensed beds, and no operations component rate shall be revised in response to beds banked on or after May 25, 2001, under chapter 70.38 RCW.

(3) To determine each facility's operations component rate the department shall:

(a) Array facilities' adjusted general operations costs per adjusted resident day for each facility from facilities' cost reports from the applicable report year, for facilities located within urban counties and for those located within nonurban counties and determine the median adjusted cost for each peer group;

(b) Set each facility's operations component rate at the lower of:

(i) The facility's per resident day adjusted operations costs from the applicable cost report period adjusted if necessary to a minimum occupancy of eighty-five percent of licensed beds before July 1, 2002, and ninety percent effective July 1, 2002; or

(ii) The adjusted median per resident day general operations cost for that facility's peer group, urban counties or nonurban counties; and

(c) Adjust each facility's operations component rate for economic trends and conditions as provided in RCW 74.46.431(7)(b).

(4) Effective July 1, 2005, each nursing facility's operations component rate allocation as otherwise determined by this section shall be reduced by eight and one-half percent.

(5) The operations component rate allocations calculated in accordance with this section shall be adjusted to the extent necessary to comply with RCW 74.46.421.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** The following acts or parts of acts are each repealed:

(1) RCW 74.46.433 (Variable return component rate allocation) and 2001 1st sp.s. c 8 s 6 & 1999 c 353 s 9; and

(2) RCW 74.46.439 (Facilities leased in arm's-length agreements--Recomputation of financing allowance--Reimbursement for annualized lease payments--Rate adjustment) and 1999 c 353 s 12.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect July 1, 2005.

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