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No. 24A

Contains: Corrected Committee Report and Amendment.

ADDENDUM TO HOUSE CALENDAR No. 24

THURSDAY, MAY 18

REGULAR CALENDAR

HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS

SB 127-FN, relative to certain programs administered by the department of health and human services.
MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.

Rep. Wayne MacDonald for the **Majority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This bill updates certain state statutes to come into compliance with federal statutes, such as the disqualification period for food stamp violations. It also addresses and slightly modifies numerous other matters handled by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), such as where fees paid for by methadone providers go and what the definition of a personal care provider is. It also alters the reporting requirements of the State Office of Rural Health. All of these are appropriate changes. DHHS did an excellent job presenting information and explaining the purpose of each segment of the bill during its testimony, with several department officials appearing before the committee. **Vote 15-5.**

Rep. Jim Kofalt for the **Minority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. The minority of the committee believes that bills should not contain unrelated topics, and therefore opposes SB 127. Had six stand-alone bills come before the committee, the minority would not have opposed any one of them. This legislation should have been six different bills: one with sections 1, 2 and 16 on narcotics; one with sections 3 and 4 on personal care services; one with sections 5 through 7 on residential care; one very different bill on beverages with sections 8 and 9; one to clean up Medicaid and SNAP details in sections 10 through 12; and one dealing with department reports with sections 13-15.

AMENDMENT

Amendment to SB 127-FN

(2023-1457h)

Proposed by the Majority of the Committee on Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs – r

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Controlled Drug Act; Professional Use of Narcotic Drugs. Amend RSA 318-B:10, VII(f) to read as follows:

(f) The department shall assess a fee to be paid by providers of methadone detoxification and maintenance programs for certification and administration by the department. ~~[The fee shall be \$8 per client based on the annual client census of the previous calendar year. If the provider had no clients in the previous calendar year, then the fee shall be \$1,000.]~~ **The initial fee shall be \$1,000. Annually thereafter, the fee shall be \$8 per client based on the annual client census of the previous calendar year.** All moneys collected by the department from fees authorized under this subparagraph shall be deposited into the ~~[general fund]~~ **special fund for administration of opioid treatment programs established in RSA 172:8-c.**

2023-1457h
AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

- I. Clarifies and re-routes fees paid by methadone providers to the special fund for administration of opioid treatment programs.
- II. Alters the definition of personal care services provider for the purposes of reimbursement by the department.
- III. Alters the payment structure to residential care facilities for features outside of room and board.
- IV. Eliminates the long term care facility reporting requirement to the department of health and human services regarding the Nursing Facility Quality Assessment (NFQA).
- V. Removes the requirement for a beverage license if the facility is only offering bottled beverage direct to consumer and already holds a retail food license from the state health department or self-inspecting jurisdiction.
- VI. Removes payment of premiums from the MEAD program.
- VII. Aligns public assistance benefits within this state with federal regulations.
- VIII. Alters the reporting requirements of the state office of rural health.
- IX. Extends the commission to study the delivery of public health services through regional public health networks report date and prospective repeal to 2024.