



Sen. John G. Mulroe

Filed: 3/10/2017

10000SB1544sam001

LRB100 09930 KTG 23444 a

1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 1544

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend Senate Bill 1544 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The Illinois Public Aid Code is amended by
5 changing Section 11-5.4 as follows:

6 (305 ILCS 5/11-5.4)

7 Sec. 11-5.4. Expedited long-term care eligibility
8 determination and enrollment.

9 (a) An expedited long-term care eligibility determination
10 and enrollment system shall be established to reduce long-term
11 care determinations to 90 days or fewer by July 1, 2014 and
12 streamline the long-term care enrollment process.
13 Establishment of the system shall be a joint venture of the
14 Department of Human Services and Healthcare and Family Services
15 and the Department on Aging. The Governor shall name a lead
16 agency no later than 30 days after the effective date of this

1 amendatory Act of the 98th General Assembly to assume
2 responsibility for the full implementation of the
3 establishment and maintenance of the system. Project outcomes
4 shall include an enhanced eligibility determination tracking
5 system accessible to providers and a centralized application
6 review and eligibility determination with all applicants
7 reviewed within 90 days of receipt by the State of a complete
8 application. If the Department of Healthcare and Family
9 Services' Office of the Inspector General determines that there
10 is a likelihood that a non-allowable transfer of assets has
11 occurred, and the facility in which the applicant resides is
12 notified, an extension of up to 90 days shall be permissible.
13 On or before December 31, 2015, a streamlined application and
14 enrollment process shall be put in place based on the following
15 principles:

16 (1) Minimize the burden on applicants by collecting
17 only the data necessary to determine eligibility for
18 medical services, long-term care services, and spousal
19 impoverishment offset.

20 (2) Integrate online data sources to simplify the
21 application process by reducing the amount of information
22 needed to be entered and to expedite eligibility
23 verification.

24 (3) Provide online prompts to alert the applicant that
25 information is missing or not complete.

26 (b) The Department shall, on or before July 1, 2014, assess

1 the feasibility of incorporating all information needed to
2 determine eligibility for long-term care services, including
3 asset transfer and spousal impoverishment financials, into the
4 State's integrated eligibility system identifying all
5 resources needed and reasonable timeframes for achieving the
6 specified integration.

7 (c) The lead agency shall file interim reports with the
8 Chairs and Minority Spokespersons of the House and Senate Human
9 Services Committees no later than September 1, 2013 and on
10 February 1, 2014. The Department of Healthcare and Family
11 Services shall include in the annual Medicaid report for State
12 Fiscal Year 2014 and every fiscal year thereafter information
13 concerning implementation of the provisions of this Section.

14 (d) No later than August 1, 2014, the Auditor General shall
15 report to the General Assembly concerning the extent to which
16 the timeframes specified in this Section have been met and the
17 extent to which State staffing levels are adequate to meet the
18 requirements of this Section.

19 (e) The Department of Healthcare and Family Services, the
20 Department of Human Services, and the Department on Aging shall
21 take the following steps to achieve federally established
22 timeframes for eligibility determinations for Medicaid and
23 long-term care benefits and shall work toward the federal goal
24 of real time determinations:

25 (1) The Departments shall review, in collaboration
26 with representatives of affected providers, all forms and

1 procedures currently in use, federal guidelines either
2 suggested or mandated, and staff deployment by September
3 30, 2014 to identify additional measures that can improve
4 long-term care eligibility processing and make adjustments
5 where possible.

6 (2) No later than June 30, 2014, the Department of
7 Healthcare and Family Services shall issue vouchers for
8 advance payments not to exceed \$50,000,000 to nursing
9 facilities with significant outstanding Medicaid liability
10 associated with services provided to residents with
11 Medicaid applications pending and residents facing the
12 greatest delays. Each facility with an advance payment
13 shall state in writing whether its own recoupment schedule
14 will be in 3 or 6 equal monthly installments, as long as
15 all advances are recouped by June 30, 2015.

16 (3) The Department of Healthcare and Family Services'
17 Office of Inspector General and the Department of Human
18 Services shall immediately forgo resource review and
19 review of transfers during the relevant look-back period
20 for applications that were submitted prior to September 1,
21 2013. An applicant who applied prior to September 1, 2013,
22 who was denied for failure to cooperate in providing
23 required information, and whose application was
24 incorrectly reviewed under the wrong look-back period
25 rules may request review and correction of the denial based
26 on this subsection. If found eligible upon review, such

1 applicants shall be retroactively enrolled.

2 (4) As soon as practicable, the Department of
3 Healthcare and Family Services shall implement policies
4 and promulgate rules to simplify financial eligibility
5 verification in the following instances: (A) for
6 applicants or recipients who are receiving Supplemental
7 Security Income payments or who had been receiving such
8 payments at the time they were admitted to a nursing
9 facility and (B) for applicants or recipients with verified
10 income at or below 100% of the federal poverty level when
11 the declared value of their countable resources is no
12 greater than the allowable amounts pursuant to Section 5-2
13 of this Code for classes of eligible persons for whom a
14 resource limit applies. Such simplified verification
15 policies shall apply to community cases as well as
16 long-term care cases.

17 (5) As soon as practicable, but not later than July 1,
18 2014, the Department of Healthcare and Family Services and
19 the Department of Human Services shall jointly begin a
20 special enrollment project by using simplified eligibility
21 verification policies and by redeploying caseworkers
22 trained to handle long-term care cases to prioritize those
23 cases, until the backlog is eliminated and processing time
24 is within 90 days. This project shall apply to applications
25 for long-term care received by the State on or before May
26 15, 2014.

1 (6) As soon as practicable, but not later than
2 September 1, 2014, the Department on Aging shall make
3 available to long-term care facilities and community
4 providers upon request, through an electronic method, the
5 information contained within the Interagency Certification
6 of Screening Results completed by the pre-screener, in a
7 form and manner acceptable to the Department of Human
8 Services.

9 (7) Effective 30 days after the completion of 3
10 regionally based trainings, nursing facilities shall
11 submit all applications for medical assistance online via
12 the Application for Benefits Eligibility (ABE) website.
13 This requirement shall extend to scanning and uploading
14 with the online application any required additional forms
15 such as the Long Term Care Facility Notification and the
16 Additional Financial Information for Long Term Care
17 Applicants as well as scanned copies of any supporting
18 documentation. Long-term care facility admission documents
19 must be submitted as required in Section 5-5 of this Code.
20 No local Department of Human Services office shall refuse
21 to accept an electronically filed application.

22 (8) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Code,
23 the Department of Human Services and the Department of
24 Healthcare and Family Services' Office of the Inspector
25 General shall, upon request, allow an applicant additional
26 time to submit information and documents needed as part of

1 a review of available resources or resources transferred
2 during the look-back period. The initial extension shall
3 not exceed 30 days. A second extension of 30 days may be
4 granted upon request. Any request for information issued by
5 the State to an applicant shall include the following: an
6 explanation of the information required and the date by
7 which the information must be submitted; a statement that
8 failure to respond in a timely manner can result in denial
9 of the application; a statement that the applicant or the
10 facility in the name of the applicant may seek an
11 extension; and the name and contact information of a
12 caseworker in case of questions. Any such request for
13 information shall also be sent to the facility. In deciding
14 whether to grant an extension, the Department of Human
15 Services or the Department of Healthcare and Family
16 Services' Office of the Inspector General shall take into
17 account what is in the best interest of the applicant. The
18 time limits for processing an application shall be tolled
19 during the period of any extension granted under this
20 subsection.

21 (9) The Department of Human Services and the Department
22 of Healthcare and Family Services must jointly compile data
23 on pending applications, denials, appeals, and
24 redeterminations into a monthly report, which shall be
25 posted on each Department's website for the purposes of
26 monitoring long-term care eligibility processing. The

1 report must specify the number of applications and
2 redeterminations pending long-term care eligibility
3 determination and admission and the number of appeals of
4 denials in the following categories:

5 (A) Length of time applications, redeterminations,
6 and appeals are pending - 0 to 90 days, 91 days to 180
7 days, 181 days to 12 months, over 12 months to 18
8 months, over 18 months to 24 months, and over 24
9 months.

10 (B) Percentage of applications and
11 redeterminations pending in the Department of Human
12 Services' Family Community Resource Centers, in the
13 Department of Human Services' long-term care hubs,
14 with the Department of Healthcare and Family Services'
15 Office of Inspector General, and those applications
16 which are being tolled due to requests for extension of
17 time for additional information.

18 (C) Status of pending applications, denials,
19 appeals, and redeterminations, including the number of
20 pending applications and redeterminations denied for
21 failure to submit the required documentation.

22 (Source: P.A. 98-104, eff. 7-22-13; 98-651, eff. 6-16-14;
23 99-153, eff. 7-28-15.)

24 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
25 becoming law."