

HB 1527 - DIGEST

(DIGEST AS PASSED LEGISLATURE)

Provides that, prior to implementing any upward or downward adjustment to the daily medicaid payment rate for consumers that are assessed using the comprehensive assessment reporting evaluation tool and reside in boarding homes contracted to provide assisted living services, adult residential care, or enhanced adult residential care services, the department of social and health services must convene at least one public hearing, with at least thirty days' notice to all boarding home providers, to inform boarding home providers how the upward or downward adjustments were calculated and to review all factors considered by the department in implementing the adjustments.

VETO MESSAGE ON HB 1527

May 18, 2009

To the Honorable Speaker and Members,
The House of Representatives of the State of Washington

I am returning, without my approval, House Bill 1527 entitled:

"AN ACT Relating to Medicaid payment rates for boarding homes."

This bill requires that prior to adjusting boarding home Medicaid rates, the Department of Social and Health Services (Department) must convene at least one public hearing to inform boarding home providers how the adjustments were calculated and to review all factors considered in implementing the adjustments.

With such a hearing already required under the Administrative Procedures Act, this bill would lead to confusion, unnecessary duplication, and additional costs. There are better ways for the Department to improve communication regarding the boarding home reimbursement system, and I have directed them to undertake such communication efforts in lieu of placing this requirement in statute.

For this reason, I have vetoed House Bill 1527 in its entirety.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine O. Gregoire
Governor