

**First Regular Session  
Seventy-third General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**PREAMENDED**

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee  
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 21-0817.01 Brita Darling x2241

**HOUSE BILL 21-1227**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Lontine and Soper**, Bernett, Bird, Duran, Hooton, Michaelson Jenet, Ricks, Titone

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Fields**,

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Health & Insurance

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101      **CONCERNING MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS FOR**  
102                    **NURSING FACILITIES, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH,**  
103                    **ESTABLISHING A DEMONSTRATION OF NEED.**

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)*

The bill requires the department of health care policy and financing (department) to develop, analyze, and enforce a demonstration of need for each new nursing facility provider seeking medicaid certification. The requirement does not apply to a nursing facility provider certified prior to June 30, 2021.

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.*  
*Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

HOUSE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
April 12, 2021

HOUSE  
2nd Reading Unamended  
April 9, 2021

The bill requires the medical services board to promulgate rules, no later than June 30, 2022, addressing the establishment of criteria to be used in determining a nursing facility provider's medicaid certification.

The bill allows the department to exempt nursing facilities with 5 or fewer medicaid beds from the current reimbursement methodology and instead require the facilities to be reimbursed at the statewide average rate.

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1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 25.5-6-209 as  
3 follows:

4 **25.5-6-209. Establishment of nursing facility provider**  
5 **demonstration of need - criteria - rules.** (1) THE STATE DEPARTMENT,  
6 IN MAKING ANY MEDICAID CERTIFICATION DETERMINATION, SHALL  
7 ENCOURAGE AN APPROPRIATE ALLOCATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH-CARE  
8 RESOURCES AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF ALTERNATIVE OR SUBSTITUTE  
9 METHODS OF DELIVERING HEALTH-CARE SERVICES SO THAT ADEQUATE  
10 LONG-TERM CARE SERVICES ARE MADE REASONABLY AVAILABLE TO  
11 EVERY QUALIFIED RECIPIENT WITHIN THE STATE AT THE APPROPRIATE  
12 LEVEL OF CARE, AT THE LOWEST REASONABLE AGGREGATE COST, AND IN  
13 THE LEAST RESTRICTIVE SETTING. MEDICAID CERTIFICATION  
14 DETERMINATIONS SHALL BE MADE IN ACCORDANCE WITH *OLMSTEAD V.*  
15 *L.C.*, 527 U.S. 581 (1999).

16 (2) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP, ANALYZE, AND  
17 ENFORCE A DEMONSTRATION OF NEED TO DETERMINE THE VIABILITY OF  
18 AND REQUIRED NEED FOR EACH NEW NURSING FACILITY PROVIDER SEEKING  
19 MEDICAID CERTIFICATION. THE REQUIREMENT DOES NOT APPLY TO A  
20 NURSING FACILITY PROVIDER CERTIFIED PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 2021.

21 (3) IN ORDER TO DETERMINE A VALID DEMONSTRATION OF NEED,  
22 THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL, AT A MINIMUM, CONSIDER:

1 (a) STATE DEMOGRAPHY OFFICE DATA ILLUSTRATING THE PRESENT  
2 OR IMPENDING NEED WITHIN THE REQUESTING NURSING FACILITY'S  
3 GEOGRAPHIC AREA;

4 (b) QUALITY AND PERFORMANCE DATA OF THE REQUESTING  
5 NURSING FACILITY OR ASSOCIATED NURSING FACILITIES;

6 (c) BUSINESS CONTINUITY AND SOLVENCY INFORMATION OF THE  
7 REQUESTING NURSING FACILITY OR ASSOCIATED NURSING FACILITIES;

8 (d) INPUT FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND  
9 ENVIRONMENT; THE DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL AFFAIRS; THE DEPARTMENT  
10 OF REGULATORY AGENCIES; THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND  
11 EMPLOYMENT; AND ANY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, INCLUDING CITIES AND  
12 COUNTIES; AND

13 (e) MEASURABLE INNOVATIVE PRACTICES OF THE REQUESTING  
14 NURSING FACILITY.

15 (4) NO LATER THAN JUNE 30, 2022, THE STATE BOARD SHALL  
16 PROMULGATE RULES PURSUANT TO THE "STATE ADMINISTRATIVE  
17 PROCEDURE ACT", ARTICLE 4 OF TITLE 24, ADDRESSING THE  
18 ESTABLISHMENT OF CRITERIA TO BE USED IN DETERMINING A NURSING  
19 FACILITY PROVIDER'S MEDICAID CERTIFICATION. THE STATE BOARD SHALL  
20 PUBLICLY CONSIDER AND GATHER INPUT ON THE DEMONSTRATION OF NEED  
21 CRITERIA PRIOR TO PROMULGATING RULES. THE STATE DEPARTMENT  
22 SHALL CONSIDER INPUT FROM, AT A MINIMUM:

23 (a) DISABILITY ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS;

24 (b) URBAN NURSING FACILITY PROVIDERS;

25 (c) RURAL NURSING FACILITY PROVIDERS;

26 (d) AGING AND OLDER ADULT ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS; AND

27 (e) NURSING FACILITY TRADE ORGANIZATIONS.

1           **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25.5-6-201, **amend**  
2 (4), (16), and (27); **repeal** (34); and **add** (9.5) as follows:

3           **25.5-6-201. Special definitions relating to nursing facility**  
4 **reimbursement.** As used in this part 2, unless the context otherwise  
5 requires:

6           (4) "Appraised value" means the determination by a qualified  
7 appraiser who is a member of an institute of real estate appraisers, or its  
8 equivalent, of the depreciated cost of replacement of a capital-related  
9 asset to its current owner. The depreciated replacement appraisal ~~shall~~  
10 MUST be based on ~~the "Boeckh Commercial Underwriter's Valuation~~  
11 ~~System for Nursing Homes"~~ A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED VALUATION  
12 SYSTEM DETERMINED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT. The depreciated cost  
13 of replacement appraisal ~~shall~~ MUST be redetermined AT LEAST every four  
14 years by new appraisals of the nursing facilities. The new appraisals ~~shall~~  
15 MUST be based upon rules promulgated by the state board.

16           (9.5) "CASE-MIX GROUP" MEANS THE SYSTEM DETERMINED BY THE  
17 STATE DEPARTMENT FOR GROUPING A NURSING FACILITY'S RESIDENTS  
18 ACCORDING TO THEIR CLINICAL AND FUNCTIONAL STATUS AS IDENTIFIED  
19 FROM DATA SUPPLIED BY THE FACILITY'S MINIMUM DATA SET AS  
20 PUBLISHED BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN  
21 SERVICES.

22           (16) "Facility population distribution" means the number of  
23 Colorado nursing facility residents who are classified into each ~~resource~~  
24 ~~utilization~~ CASE-MIX group as of a specific point in time.

25           (27) "Nursing weights" means numeric scores assigned to each  
26 category of the ~~resource utilization~~ CASE-MIX groups that measure the  
27 relative amount of resources required to provide nursing care to a nursing

1 facility provider's residents.

2 (34) "~~Resource utilization groups~~" means the system for grouping  
3 ~~a nursing facility's residents according to their clinical and functional~~  
4 ~~statuses as identified from data supplied by the facility's minimum data~~  
5 ~~set as published by the United States department of health and human~~  
6 ~~services.~~

7 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25.5-6-202, **amend**  
8 (2); and **add** (12) as follows:

9 **25.5-6-202. Providers - nursing facility provider**  
10 **reimbursement - exemption - rules.** (2) The state department shall  
11 further adjust and, subject to available appropriations, pay the per diem  
12 rate to the nursing facility provider for the cost of direct health-care  
13 services based upon the acuity or case-mix of the nursing facility provider  
14 residents in order to provide for the resource utilization of its residents.  
15 The state department shall determine this adjustment in accordance with  
16 each resident's status as identified and reported by the nursing facility  
17 provider on its federal medicare and medicaid minimum data set  
18 assessment. The state department shall establish a case-mix index for  
19 each nursing facility provider according to the ~~resource utilization groups~~  
20 ~~system, using only nursing weights~~ CASE-MIX GROUP DETERMINED BY THE  
21 STATE DEPARTMENT. The state department shall calculate nursing weights  
22 based upon standard nursing time studies and weighted by facility  
23 population distribution and Colorado-specific nursing salary ratios. The  
24 state department shall determine an average case-mix index for each  
25 nursing facility provider's medicaid residents on a quarterly basis.

26 (12) THE STATE DEPARTMENT MAY EXEMPT FACILITIES WITH FIVE  
27 OR FEWER MEDICAID BEDS FROM THE METHODOLOGY DESCRIBED IN THIS

1 SECTION AND INSTEAD REQUIRE THE FACILITIES TO BE REIMBURSED AT THE  
2 STATEWIDE AVERAGE RATE.

3           **SECTION 4. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
4 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
5 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except  
6 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V  
7 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this  
8 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take  
9 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
10 November 2022 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
11 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.