

additional information needed to process the claim. The disclosure shall be made consistent with state and federal law. Where evidence of suspected fraud is present, the requirement to disclose additional information need not be specific.

Subd. 4. PAYMENT OF INTEREST ON LATE PAYMENTS. (a) If a health maintenance organization fails to pay or deny a valid home care provider claim within 30 days as specified in subdivision 3, the health maintenance organization must pay interest to the home care provider on the claim with interest accruing from the 30th day. If a negotiated contract or agreement between a home care provider and a health maintenance organization requires an audit by the health maintenance organization before acceptance and payment of the claim, interest payments do not apply until 30 days after the timely completion of the audit by the health maintenance organization. Before any interest payment is made, the home care provider must bill the health maintenance organization for the interest.

(b) The rate of interest paid by a health maintenance organization under this subdivision shall be 1.5 percent per month or any part of the month.

(c) A home care provider who prevails in a civil action to collect interest payments from a health maintenance organization shall be awarded the costs and disbursements, including attorney fees, incurred in bringing the action.

(d) The minimum monthly interest payment that a health maintenance organization must pay to a home care provider for the unpaid balance for any single overdue claim equal to or exceeding \$100 is \$10. For unpaid balances of less than \$100, the health maintenance organization must pay the actual interest payment due to the home care provider.

(e) A health maintenance organization is not required to make an interest payment on a claim for which payment has been delayed for purposes of reviewing potentially fraudulent or abusive billing practices.

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.

Section 1 is effective July 1, 1999, and applies to claims made under health maintenance organization contracts with home care providers entered into or renewed on or after that date.

Presented to the governor May 7, 1999

Signed by the governor May 11, 1999, 1:50 p.m.

CHAPTER 147—H.F.No. 174

An act relating to the Paynesville area hospital district; authorizing the district to annex the city of Richmond to the district.

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

Section 1. PAYNESVILLE AREA HOSPITAL DISTRICT.

Notwithstanding the contiguity requirement of Minnesota Statutes, section 447.36, the Paynesville area hospital district, organized in 1992 by resolution of the Paynesville

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city council and the Paynesville town board, may annex the city of Richmond to the district. The annexation shall otherwise comply with Minnesota Statutes, sections 447.31 to 447.50, including the referendum provision of Minnesota Statutes, section 447.36.

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.

Under Minnesota Statutes, section 645.023, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), section 1 is effective without local approval on the day following final enactment.

Presented to the governor May 7, 1999

Signed by the governor May 11, 1999, 1:52 p.m.

CHAPTER 148—H.F.No. 70

An act relating to public safety; authorizing law enforcement agencies to sell forfeited firearms, ammunition, and firearm accessories to firearms dealers; allowing certain agencies to retain forfeited money for crime prevention use; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 609.5315, subdivisions 1 and 2.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 609.5315, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **DISPOSITION.** (a) Subject to paragraph (b), if the court finds under section 609.5313, 609.5314, or 609.5318 that the property is subject to forfeiture, it shall order the appropriate agency to do one of the following:

(1) unless a different disposition is provided under clause (3) or (4), either destroy all weapons used, firearms, ammunition, and firearm accessories that the agency decides not to use for law enforcement purposes under clause (6) (8), unless the agency determines that there is good reason not to destroy a particular item or sell them to federally licensed firearms dealers, as defined in section 624.7161, subdivision 1, and distribute the proceeds under subdivision 5;

(2) sell property that is not required to be destroyed by law and is not harmful to the public and distribute the proceeds under subdivision 5;

(3) sell antique firearms, as defined in section 624.712, subdivision 3, to the public and distribute the proceeds under subdivision 5;

(4) destroy or use for law enforcement purposes semiautomatic military-style assault weapons, as defined in section 624.712, subdivision 7;

(5) take custody of the property and remove it for disposition in accordance with law;

(6) forward the property to the federal drug enforcement administration;

(7) disburse money as provided under subdivision 5; or

New language is indicated by underline, deletions by ~~strikeout~~.