A bill for an act

relating to human services; directing the commissioner of human services to develop a proposal to create a single administrative structure for the delivery of medical nonemergency transportation services in the medical assistance program.

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

Section 1. **MEDICAL NONEMERGENCY TRANSPORTATION SINGLE ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE PROPOSAL.**

(a) The commissioner of human services shall develop a proposal to create a single administrative structure for providing medical nonemergency transportation services to fee-for-service medical assistance recipients. This proposal must consolidate access and special transportation into one administrative structure with the goal of standardizing eligibility determination processes, scheduling arrangements, billing procedures, data collection, and oversight mechanisms in order to enhance coordination, improve accountability, and lessen confusion.

(b) In developing the proposal, the commissioner shall:

(1) examine the current responsibilities performed by the counties and the Department of Human Services and consider the shift in costs if these responsibilities are changed;

(2) identify key performance measures to assess the cost effectiveness of medical nonemergency transportation statewide, including a process to collect, audit, and report data;

(3) develop a statewide complaint system for medical assistance recipients using special transportation;

(4) establish a standardized billing process;

(5) establish a process that provides public input from interested parties before special transportation eligibility policies are implemented or significantly changed;

(6) establish specific eligibility criteria that include the frequency of eligibility assessments and the length of time a recipient remains eligible for special transportation; and

(7) develop a reimbursement method to compensate volunteers for no-load miles when transporting recipients to or from health-related appointments.

(c) In developing the proposal, the commissioner shall consult with the commissioner of transportation and representatives of the Minnesota State Council on Disability, the Minnesota Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities, the Arc of Minnesota, the Association of Minnesota Counties, and transportation providers.

(d) The commissioner shall submit the proposal and draft legislation necessary for implementation to the chairs and ranking minority members of the senate and house of representatives committees or divisions with jurisdiction over health care policy and finance by January 15, 2012.