

**254B.13 PILOT PROJECTS; CHEMICAL HEALTH CARE.**

Subdivision 1. **Authorization for pilot projects.** The commissioner may approve and implement pilot projects developed under the planning process required under Laws 2009, chapter 79, article 7, section 26, to provide alternatives to and enhance coordination of the delivery of chemical health services required under section 254B.03.

Subd. 2. **Program design and implementation.** (a) The commissioner and counties participating in the pilot projects shall continue to work in partnership to refine and implement the pilot projects initiated under Laws 2009, chapter 79, article 7, section 26.

(b) The commissioner and counties participating in the pilot projects shall complete the planning phase by June 30, 2010, and, if approved by the commissioner for implementation, enter into agreements governing the operation of the pilot projects with implementation scheduled no earlier than July 1, 2010.

Subd. 3. **Program evaluation.** The commissioner shall evaluate pilot projects under this section and report the results of the evaluation to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over chemical health issues by January 15, 2014. Evaluation of the pilot projects must be based on outcome evaluation criteria negotiated with the pilot projects prior to implementation.

Subd. 4. **Notice of project discontinuation.** Each county's participation in the pilot project may be discontinued for any reason by the county or the commissioner of human services after 30 days' written notice to the other party. Any unspent funds held for the exiting county's pro rata share in the special revenue fund under the authority in subdivision 5, paragraph (d), shall be transferred to the consolidated chemical dependency treatment fund following discontinuation of the pilot project.

Subd. 5. **Duties of commissioner.** (a) Notwithstanding any other provisions in this chapter, the commissioner may authorize pilot projects to use chemical dependency treatment funds to pay for nontreatment pilot services:

- (1) in addition to those authorized under section 254B.03, subdivision 2, paragraph (a); and
- (2) by vendors in addition to those authorized under section 254B.05 when not providing chemical dependency treatment services.

(b) For purposes of this section, "nontreatment pilot services" include navigator services, peer support, family engagement and support, housing support, rent subsidies, supported employment, and independent living skills.

(c) State expenditures for chemical dependency services and nontreatment pilot services provided by or through the pilot projects must not be greater than the chemical dependency treatment fund expected share of forecasted expenditures in the absence of the pilot projects. The commissioner may restructure the schedule of payments between the state and participating counties under the local agency share and division of cost provisions under section 254B.03, subdivisions 3 and 4, as necessary to facilitate the operation of the pilot projects.

(d) To the extent that state fiscal year expenditures within a pilot project are less than the expected share of forecasted expenditures in the absence of the pilot projects, the commissioner shall deposit the unexpended funds in a separate account within the consolidated chemical dependency treatment fund, and make these funds available for expenditure by the pilot projects

the following year. To the extent that treatment and nontreatment pilot services expenditures within the pilot project exceed the amount expected in the absence of the pilot projects, the pilot project county or counties are responsible for the portion of nontreatment pilot services expenditures in excess of the otherwise expected share of forecasted expenditures.

(e) The commissioner may waive administrative rule requirements that are incompatible with the implementation of the pilot project, except that any chemical dependency treatment funded under this section must continue to be provided by a licensed treatment provider.

(f) The commissioner shall not approve or enter into any agreement related to pilot projects authorized under this section that puts current or future federal funding at risk.

**Subd. 6. Duties of county board.** The county board, or other county entity that is approved to administer a pilot project, shall:

(1) administer the pilot project in a manner consistent with the objectives described in subdivision 2 and the planning process in subdivision 5;

(2) ensure that no one is denied chemical dependency treatment services for which they would otherwise be eligible under section 254A.03, subdivision 3; and

(3) provide the commissioner with timely and pertinent information as negotiated in agreements governing operation of the pilot projects.

**History:** 2010 c 376 s 1; 1Sp2010 c 1 art 19 s 16; 2011 c 86 s 10