

SCS HB 343 -- MONEY FOLLOWS THE PERSON DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

By September 1, 2015, this bill requires the Department of Social Services, in cooperation with the Department of Health and Senior Services and the Department of Mental Health, to establish a committee to assess the continuation of the Money Follows the Person Demonstration Program in order to support Missourians who have disabilities and those who are aging to transition from nursing facilities or habilitation centers to quality community settings. The committee must study sustainability of the program beyond the current demonstration time frame for all transitions to occur by September 30, 2018. One member is to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, one member is to be appointed by the President Pro Tem of the Senate, and the remaining members are to be chosen by the Director of the Department of Social Services as specified in the bill representing specific agencies and groups. The committee must include fiscal staff from the Department of Social Services, the Department of Health and Senior Services, the Department of Mental Health, and the Division of Budget and Planning within the Office of Administration. The committee may also include other members or workgroups deemed necessary to accomplish its purposes including, but not limited to, representatives from state agencies, local advisory groups and community members, and members of the General Assembly with valuable input regarding the activities of the program.

The committee must:

- (1) Review the extent to which the demonstration program has achieved its purposes;
- (2) Assess any possible improvements to the program;
- (3) Investigate program elements and costs to sustain the program beyond its current demonstration period;
- (4) Explore cost savings achieved through the demonstration program; and
- (5) Investigate the possibility and need to apply for a waiver from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

By July 1, 2016, the Department of Social Services, in cooperation with the Department of Health and Senior Services and the Department of Mental Health, must make recommendations based on the findings of the committee and report them to the General Assembly and the Governor.

The provisions of the bill will expire on January 1, 2017.