LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 138

Introduced by Riepe, 12.

Read first time January 13, 2025

Committee:

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to public assistance; to amend section
- 2 68-9,111, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to change
- 3 pharmacy dispensing fees as prescribed; and to repeal the original
- 4 section.
- 5 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

- **Section 1.** Section 68-9,111, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
- 2 2024, is amended to read:
- 3 68-9,111 (1)(a) Beginning with fiscal year 2024-25, contingent upon
- 4 implementation of the contractual agreements with medicaid managed care
- 5 organizations as described in subsection (2) of this section, the
- 6 department shall establish a fee-for-service pharmacy dispensing fee
- 7 reimbursement of ten dollars and thirty-eight cents per prescription for
- 8 any independent pharmacy until a cost-of-dispensing survey is completed.
- 9 The actual dispensing fee shall be determined by a cost-of-dispensing
- 10 survey administered by the department and completed by all medical
- 11 assistance program participating independent pharmacies every two years.
- 12 The change in the dispensing fee shall become effective following federal
- 13 approval of the medicaid state plan.
- 14 (b) For purposes of this section, independent pharmacy means any
- 15 pharmacy as defined in section 71-425 that owns six or fewer pharmacies.
- 16 (2) The department shall amend all medicaid managed care
- 17 organization contracts to authorize establishment of a managed care
- 18 pharmacy dispensing fee reimbursement in accordance with the established
- 19 fee-for-service pharmacy dispensing fee reimbursement per prescription
- 20 for independent pharmacies pursuant to subsection (1) of this section.
- 21 (3) Any dispensing fee cost information submitted to the department
- 22 as part of the cost-of-dispensing survey described in subsection (1) of
- 23 this section that specifically identifies individual costs of a pharmacy
- 24 or provider shall remain confidential.
- 25 (4) No later than December 15, 2024, the department shall
- 26 electronically submit a report to the Clerk of the Legislature providing
- 27 recommendations for adjusting pharmacy dispensing fees between completion
- 28 of surveys to ensure fair and adequate reimbursement for independent
- 29 pharmacies and all other pharmacies participating in the medical
- 30 assistance program.
- 31 (5) Effective July 1, 2026, reimbursement of the dispensing fee for

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- 1 independent pharmacies shall be ten dollars and thirty-eight cents per
- 2 prescription. For all other pharmacies, as defined in section 71-425, and
- 3 mail order pharmacies, reimbursement shall be paid per prescription as
- 4 follows: (a) For pharmacies with fewer than thirty thousand prescriptions
- 5 per year, ten dollars and thirty-eight cents; (b) for pharmacies with
- 6 thirty thousand or more prescriptions and fewer than seventy thousand
- 7 prescriptions per year, nine dollars and fifty-one cents; and (c) for
- 8 pharmacies with seventy thousand or more prescriptions per year, eight
- 9 dollars and thirty cents.
- 10 (6) No later than July 1, 2026, any pharmacy except a mail order
- 11 pharmacy, that is the only enrolled pharmacy within a thirty-mile radius
- 12 <u>from another pharmacy shall be reimbursed a dispensing fee of ten dollars</u>
- 13 and thirty-eight cents per prescription.
- 14 (7) No later than July 1, 2026, the department shall complete a
- 15 cost-of-dispensing survey as a follow-up to the survey released in
- 16 December, 2024, and electronically submit a report to the Clerk of the
- 17 Legislature that provides recommendations for adjusting pharmacy
- 18 dispensing fees annually to ensure fair and adequate reimbursement for
- 19 all pharmacies participating in the medical assistance program.
- 20 Sec. 2. Original section 68-9,111, Revised Statutes Cumulative
- 21 Supplement, 2024, is repealed.