



COLORADO

Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing

1570 Grant Street
Denver, CO 80203

2022 HCPF Legislative Agenda Overview

April 2022

PACE Oversight and Accountability

PACE is an all-inclusive benefit for older adults who need long term services and supports. PACE provides a comprehensive medical and social service delivery system, and uses an interdisciplinary team approach. This bill will authorize the Department to work with stakeholders to develop a recommendation to evolve federal oversight requirements and improve the state PACE oversight structure and process. The bill will require the Department to conduct stakeholder engagement from PACE organizations, advocacy groups, ombudsman, the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE). Currently, oversight of PACE is conducted by the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, the Department, and CDPHE. Ultimately, this bill will create a recommendation for a more efficient, effective and transparent oversight structure, leveraging what is already in place.

Redesign Medicaid Provider Rate Review Advisory Committee (MPRRAC)

Established in 2015, the MPRRAC provides input to the Department related to provider reimbursements, rate setting and rate review under the Medicaid program. This proposal will redesign the MPRRAC to increase its effectiveness and efficiency, while ensuring providers, consumers and stakeholders have an opportunity to provide input during the rate review process. The Department will work closely with the Joint Budget Committee on this bill; the proposal may include changes to the MPRRAC membership, reporting requirements and timing, review schedule and operations, as well as other topics.

Improving health care equity, access and outcomes for the people we serve while
saving Coloradans money on health care and driving value for Colorado.

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Medicaid Adjusted Gross Income Compliance with Federal Requirements - SB 22-052

In 2019, the Office of the Colorado State Auditor found that the Department's statutory Medicaid adjusted gross income eligibility requirements do not meet current federal requirements, despite the Department applying the federal requirements to its eligibility process and procedures. This proposal will address the audit finding, bring Colorado into compliance with federal requirements, and mitigate future compliance issues.

Skilled Nursing Facility Enhanced Payments - HB 22-1247

This request provides \$27,001,000 in state fiscal year (SFY) 2021-22, including \$17,000,500 General Fund, to address staffing and other pandemic-driven issues in skilled nursing facilities. Nursing facilities have struggled to retain workforce under current Medicaid rate caps; this has resulted in lower resident census and decreased capacity to admit from hospitals. Medicaid receipts for nursing facilities have been under anticipated costs, and the Department aims to address these problems by re-investing a portion of the underspend. The Department needs language added to section 25.5-6-202, C.R.S. to specify that these payments are allowable reimbursements to nursing homes. Payments would be used for: workforce and industry sustainability measures, including to hire and retain staff, and hospital, complex need and correctional compassionate release admit incentives to address hospital discharge delays by incentivizing nursing facilities to admit these populations.

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