

NOTICE OF INTENT

**Department of Health and Hospitals
Bureau of Health Services Financing**

**Nursing Facilities
Per Diem Rate Reduction
(LAC 50:II.20005)**

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing proposes to amend LAC 50:II.20005 in the Medical Assistance Program as authorized by R.S. 36:254 and pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act. This proposed Rule is promulgated in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq.

For state fiscal year 2014-15, state general funds are required to continue nursing facility rates at the rebased level. Because of the fiscal constraints on the state's budget, the state general funds will not be available to sustain the increased rate. Consequently, the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing promulgated an Emergency Rule which amended the provisions governing the reimbursement methodology for nursing facilities in order to reduce the per diem rates paid to non-state nursing facilities (*Louisiana Register*, Volume 40, Number 5). This proposed Rule is being promulgated to continue the provisions of the July 1, 2014 Emergency Rule.

Title 50

PUBLIC HEALTH-MEDICAL ASSISTANCE
Part II. Nursing Facilities
Subpart 5. Reimbursement

Chapter 200. Reimbursement Methodology

§20005. Rate Determination [Formerly LAC 50:VII.1305]

A. - P. ...

Q. Effective for dates of service on or after July 1, 2014, the per diem rate paid to non-state nursing facilities, shall be reduced by \$90.26 of the rate in effect on June 30, 2014 until such time that the rate is rebased.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:254 and Title XIX of the Social Security Act.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 28:1791 (August 2002), amended LR 31:1596 (July 2005), LR 32:2263 (December 2006), LR 33:2203 (October 2007), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 36:325 (February 2010), repromulgated LR 36:520 (March 2010), amended LR 36:1556 (July 2010), LR 36:1782 (August 2010), LR 36:2566 (November 2010), LR 37:092 (March 2011), LR 37:1174 (April 2011), LR 37:2631 (September 2011), LR 38:1241 (May 2012), LR 39:1286 (May 2013), LR 39:3097 (November 2013), LR 41:

In compliance with Act 1183 of the 1999 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the impact of this proposed Rule on the family has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have no impact on family functioning, stability and autonomy as described in R.S. 49:972.

In compliance with Act 854 of the 2012 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the poverty impact of this proposed Rule has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have no impact on child, individual, or family poverty in relation to individual or community asset development as described in R.S. 49:973.

In compliance with House Concurrent Resolution 170 of the 2014 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the provider impact of this proposed Rule has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have no impact on the staffing level requirements or qualifications required to provide the same level of service, but may increase the total direct and indirect cost of the provider to provide the same level of service due to the decrease in payments. The proposed Rule may also have a negative impact on the provider's ability to provide the same level of service as described in HCR 170 if the reduction in payments adversely impacts the provider's financial standing.

Interested persons may submit written comments to J. Ruth

Kennedy, Bureau of Health Services Financing, P.O. Box 91030,
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9030 or by email to MedicaidPolicy@la.gov.
Ms. Kennedy is responsible for responding to inquiries regarding
this proposed Rule. A public hearing on this proposed Rule is
scheduled for Tuesday, March 31, 2015 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 118,
Bienville Building, 628 North Fourth Street, Baton Rouge, LA.
At that time all interested persons will be afforded an
opportunity to submit data, views or arguments either orally or
in writing. The deadline for receipt of all written comments is
4:30 p.m. on the next business day following the public hearing.

Kathy H. Kliebert

Secretary