

Unofficial Draft Copy

As of: April 28, 2016 (10:23am)

LCcf06

**** Bill No. ****

Introduced By *****

By Request of the *****

A Bill for an Act entitled: "An Act appropriating money to the department of public health and human services to increase service slots under the medicaid home and community-based services waiver for elderly and physically disabled individuals; and providing an effective date."

WHEREAS, when individuals with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias have the opportunity to maintain their dignity and self-esteem by living at home or in community residential settings, their quality of life is increased; and

WHEREAS, many individuals with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias deplete their resources and turn to Medicaid to help them stay in their homes or in assisting living; and

WHEREAS, there is a waiting list of 426 individuals for Medicaid home and community-based waiver services who are entitled to nursing home care; and

WHEREAS, the average cost to the Montana Medicaid program for nursing home care is significantly more than the cost for care in assisted living or in a home; and

WHEREAS, 92% of Montanans want for themselves or their loved ones to live at home with assistance or in an assisted living or group home in their community if life becomes difficult due to illness; and

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WHEREAS, there is a need to expand Medicaid home and community-based waiver services and incentivize providers to offer care to Medicaid members in their homes or in assisted living rather than in a nursing home.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Montana:

NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Appropriation.** The following money is appropriated from the following designated funds to the department of public health and human services for the purpose of increasing the number of service slots under the home and community-based medicaid services waiver administered by the senior and long-term care division for elderly and physically disabled individuals:

Fiscal year 2018	\$1,709,546 federal special revenue
	\$922,954 general fund

Fiscal year 2019	\$3,419,091 federal special revenue
	\$1,845,909 general fund

NEW SECTION. **Section 2. {standard} Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2017.

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