

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

**Department of Health
Bureau of Health Services Financing**

**Nursing Facilities
Reimbursement Methodology
Transition of Private Facilities to State-Owned or
Operated Facilities Through Change of Ownership
(LAC 50:II.20023 and 20024)**

The Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing amends LAC 50:II.20023 and adopts LAC 50:II.20024 in the Medical Assistance Program as authorized by R.S. 36:254 and pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act. This Emergency Rule is promulgated in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R. S. 49:953(B)(1) et seq., and shall be in effect for the maximum period allowed under the Act.

In compliance with the directives of Act 933 of the 2010 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing currently provides reimbursement for the transition of a state-owned or operated nursing facility to a private nursing facility.

As a result of a budgetary shortfall in state fiscal year 2018-2019, the department has now determined that it is necessary to amend the provisions governing the reimbursement methodology for nursing facilities in order to adopt provisions governing the transition of a private nursing facility to a state-owned or operated nursing facility through a change of ownership. This action is being taken to avoid a budget deficit

in the Medical Assistance Program. It is estimated that implementation of this Emergency Rule will increase expenditures in the Medicaid Program by approximately \$793,946 initially, but will result in a net cost avoidance for state fiscal year 2018-2019 which will be realized in state fiscal year 2019-2020.

Effective July 5, 2018, the Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing amends the provisions governing the reimbursement methodology for nursing facilities.

Title 50

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

Chapter 200. Reimbursement Methodology

§20023. Transition of State-Owned or Operated Nursing Facility to a Private Facility

A. - D.7. ...

E. Repealed.

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, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 37:903 (March 2011), amended by the Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 44:

§20024. Transition of Private Nursing Facility to a State-Owned or Operated Nursing Facility through a Change of Ownership

A. Any private nursing facility that undergoes a change of ownership (CHOW) to a state-owned or operated nursing facility will be exempt from the prospective reimbursement system for public nursing facilities during the transitional period.

1. The transitional period will be effective from the date of the CHOW until the July 1 rate setting period following when the state-owned or operated nursing facility has an audited or reviewed 12 month or greater cost reporting period available for use in rate setting.

2. After the transitional period, the nursing facility will be reimbursed pursuant to the requirements of the prospective reimbursement system for public nursing facilities.

B. Effective for dates of service on or after July 5, 2018, the reimbursement amount paid to a public nursing facility during the transitional period shall be as follows:

1. Public nursing facilities transitioning from private ownership shall receive a monthly interim payment based on occupancy, which shall be a per diem rate of \$365.68.

2. For each cost reporting period ending during the transitional period a cost settlement process shall be performed. The cost settlement process shall ensure that Medicaid reimbursement for each public nursing facility transitioning from private ownership is equal to 100 percent of

the nursing facility's Medicaid allowable cost for the applicable cost reporting period.

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, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 44:

Implementation of the provisions of this Rule may be contingent upon the approval of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), if it is determined that submission to CMS for review and approval is required.

Interested persons may submit written comments to Jen Steele, Bureau of Health Services Financing, P.O. Box 91030, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9030 or by email to MedicaidPolicy@la.gov. Ms. Steele is responsible for responding to inquiries regarding this Emergency Rule. A copy of this Emergency Rule is available for review by interested parties at parish Medicaid offices.

Rebekah E. Gee MD, MPH

Secretary