

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

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 amends 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 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 or until adoption of the final Rule, whichever occurs first.

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing amended the provisions governing the reimbursement methodology for nursing facilities to reduce the per diem rates paid to non-state nursing facilities in order to remove the rebased amount and sunset the state fiscal year (SFY) 2012-13 nursing facility rate rebasing (*Louisiana Register*, Volume 39, Number 5).

For SFY 2013-14, state general funds are required to continue nursing facility rates at the rebased level. Because of the fiscal crisis facing the state, the state general funds will not be available to sustain the increased rates. Consequently, the department promulgated an Emergency Rule which amended the provisions governing the reimbursement methodology for nursing facilities to

further reduce the reimbursement rates for non-state nursing facilities (*Louisiana Register*, Volume 39, Number 7).

The department has now determined that it is necessary to amend the provision of the July 1, 2013 Emergency Rule to revise the formatting of these provisions in order to ensure that the provisions are appropriately incorporated into the *Louisiana Administrative Code*. This action is being taken to avoid a budget deficit in the medical assistance programs.

Effective February 20, 2015, the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing amends the provisions of the July 1, 2013 Emergency Rule governing the reimbursement methodology for nursing facilities.

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. – O. ...

P. Effective for dates of service on or after July 1, 2013, the per diem rate paid to non-state nursing facilities, excluding the provider fee, shall be reduced by \$18.90 of the rate in effect on June 30, 2013 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:

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 Emergency Rule. A copy of this Emergency Rule is available for review by interested parties at parish Medicaid offices.

Kathy H. Kliebert

Secretary