

Quality Care Assessment; HB 2160

HB 2160 amends the statute that created a provider assessment on licensed beds in skilled nursing care facilities in 2010 to eliminate a sunset provision in the law and extend the assessment program for an additional two years. The bill also would make technical changes to update agency references to the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS).

The bill would eliminate the provision directing that after the first three years the assessment amount was to be adjusted to no more than 60.0 percent of the assessment collected in previous years. In addition, the bill would extend the expiration of assessment program for two additional years, or until July 1, 2016.

Current law authorizes the Secretary of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) to impose a quality care assessment on each licensed bed at a maximum annual rate of \$1,950. The assessment is uniform on skilled nursing facilities, which includes nursing facilities, nursing facilities for mental health and hospital long-term care units, except certain facilities for less than the full rate. The Kansas Soldiers' Home and Kansas Veterans' Home are excluded from the assessment.

The payment of the quality care assessment is an allowable cost for Medicaid reimbursement purposes and can be matched with federal Medicaid funds to be used to increase nursing facility reimbursement rates. (The program was intended to minimize negative fiscal impact on certain classes of nursing facilities.) The Secretary of KDADS is designated as the agent who manages the program.