

(II) REPORTS REQUIRED TO BE PROVIDED TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY BY THE DEPARTMENT.

(D) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL INCREASE THE RATE OF REIMBURSEMENT FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES PROVIDERS BY AN AMOUNT THAT:

(1) REDUCES THE DISPARITY AMOUNT TO ~~40%~~ 80% ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, ~~2003~~ 2002;

(2) REDUCES THE DISPARITY AMOUNT TO ~~20%~~ 60% ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, ~~2004~~ 2003; AND

(3) ~~ELIMINATES THE DISPARITY AMOUNT ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2005.~~

(3) REDUCES THE DISPARITY AMOUNT TO 40% ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2004;

(4) REDUCES THE DISPARITY AMOUNT TO 20% ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2005; AND

(5) ELIMINATES THE DISPARITY AMOUNT ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2006.

(E) THE SECRETARY SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THIS SECTION.

(F) ALL INCREASES IN THE RATE OF REIMBURSEMENT PROVIDED FOR IN THIS SECTION SHALL BE USED TO INCREASE THE COMPENSATION OF COMMUNITY DIRECT SERVICE WORKERS.

(F) (G) NOTHING IN THIS SECTION SHALL BE CONSTRUED TO PROHIBIT THE DEPARTMENT FROM ELIMINATING THE DISPARITY AMOUNT PRIOR TO JULY 1, ~~2005~~ 2006.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2001.

Approved April 20, 2001.

CHAPTER 110

(House Bill 922)

AN ACT concerning

Community Providers - Developmentally Disabled Individuals - Rate Increase

FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to increase the rate of reimbursement paid to community providers of services to developmentally disabled individuals in a manner that reduces a certain disparity amount by certain percentages beginning on a certain date; requiring the Department to determine by a certain date, a certain disparity amount