Specialized Supports Massage Therapy

Social Services

Requester Information

Legislator Name: Mauga, Verona

Created Date: January 21st 2026 **Submitted Date:** January 21st 2026

Section 1: Requester Details

Description:

This is a request to adjust the Medicaid reimbursement rate for specialized massage from $15.29 to $25.00. The current recommended rate is $32.50. The ongoing funding request would be $452,045.46. Specialized Supports Massage is a medically prescribed, DSPD-authorized service that supports individuals with severe disabilities who experience chronic pain, muscle spasticity, neurological impairment, and related functional limitations.

Legislative designee contact information:

Name: Desiree Hennesy

Organization: na

Position: na

Section 2: Funding Information

How will the appropriation be used?

Category	One-time		Ongoing
Personnel Services	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$0.00
In-State Travel	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$0.00
Out-of-State Travel	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$0.00
Supplies and Equipment	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$0.00

Category	One-time		Ongoing
Technology Purchases	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$0.00
Infrastructure/Capital Investments	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$0.00
Other Charges/Pass Thru	2026: 2027:	$452,000.00 $452,000.00	$452,000.00

Expenditure Total

One-time 2026	One-time 2027	Ongoing 2027
$452,000.00	**$452,000.00**	**$452,000.00**

Funding Sources:

General Fund

Amount Requested:

2026 (One-time)	$452,000.00
2027 (One-time)	$452,000.00
2027 (Ongoing)	$452,000.00

Revenue Total

One-time 2026	One-time 2027	Ongoing 2027
$452,000.00	**$452,000.00**	**$452,000.00**

Is this a multi-year project?

No

Is this project scalable if the Legislature does not fund the full requested amount?

Yes

A short explanation describing how the project might be scaled?

The dspd rate study recommended annual amount is $778,457.42. The amount we can work with is $452,045.

Section 3: Agency Information

Subjects:

Health and Wellbeing

Agency:

250 / Department of Health and Human Services

Type of entity to receive pass-through funding:

State Government

Grant recipient

No

Requested Direct Award Grant Recipient

Section 4: Performance Outcome Measurement

Who would benefit the most from this request (who is the target audience)?

Individuals of the disabilities populations serviced by DSPD. Peoples with spinabifida, muscular dystrophy, neurological conditions and autism.

What is this project or program intended to accomplish?

This project will make necessary massage therapy to people with spinabifida, muscular dystrophy, neurological conditions and autism.

How will the Legislature know whether the project or program achieved its intended purpose?

We currently have 324 people in the state with this perscription. We are unable to fill those scripts due to a shortage of providers because of the funding inequities. We will be able to see this working as the needs are met with appropriate funding.

Section 5: Other Supporting Documents

Intent Language Documents

Previous Funding Documents

Full Time Employees

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