



HOUSE REPUBLICAN STAFF ANALYSIS

Bill:	House File 2707	House Committee: PASSED 2/17/26 (14-7)
Committee:	Health and Human Services	House Floor:
Floor Manager:	Rep. Michael Bergan	Senate Floor:
Date:	April 15, 2026	Governor:
Staff:	Natalie Ginty (281-7479)	

DHHS Bill

- This bill comes from the Department of Health and Human Services to create HHS Districts based on the behavioral health district map, and creates a subunit for volunteerism within DHHS.

Section by Section Analysis

Division I – Health and Human Services Districts

Sections 1-2, 5-7, 9-12, 15-21 (Iowa Code 12.51, 225A.1, 225A.2, 225A.3, 225A.4, 225A.5, 225A.6, 225A.7, 225A.8)

Changes the name of district behavioral health advisory councils to behavioral health district advisory council, as well as changes the order of the district/state plan wording.

Sections 3, 5 (Iowa Code 217.1, 225A.1)

Defines “health and human services district” as a multicounty area designated by DHHS.

Sections 4, 13 (Iowa Code 217.1B, Iowa Code 225A.4)

Requires DHHS to divide the state into designated HHS Districts, that are the same as the behavioral health districts currently in place. ~~Requires DHHS to review these districts at least once every 7 years.~~ Allows for the map to be modified as long as DHHS considers the city/county boundaries, if population size can be effectively served, areas of high need, and access patterns for receiving services. These district maps cannot be considered under judicial review. Requires DHHS to adopt rules.

Section 8 (Iowa Code 255A.3)

Correction of a code citation

Section 14 (Iowa Code 225A.4)

Rather than requiring DHHS to issue RFPs to be an ASO, it is permissive.

Section 22 – Immediate Effective Date

Division II – Aging and Disability Services

Section 23 (Iowa Code 231.4)

~~Defines “health and human services district”.~~

Section 24 (Iowa Code 231.23)

Strikes requirements to divide the state based on older individual population. The replaced language requires DHHS to divide the state into distinct planning and service areas based on federal law and the health and human services districts.

Section 25 – DHHS – Transition of Aging Services to Health and Human Services Districts

Defines “department”, “federal act”, “health and human services district”, “planning and service area”, and “transition period”. Requires DHHS to ensure that aging services are administered under the federal law during the transition and that the re-designating of areas in the shortest possible time.

Section 26 – Immediate effective date

Section 27 – Contingent Applicability

This division applies upon receipt of approval from the feds

Division III – Volunteer Services

Section 28 (Iowa Code 15H.2)

Strikes the ability for the director to employ personnel as necessary to carry out the duties and responsibilities of the commission on volunteer service.

Section 29 (Iowa Code 15H.4)

Allows the commission to delegate administration of nonpolicymaking duties to a subunit for volunteerism.

Section 30 (Iowa Code 217.13)

Creates a subunit for volunteerism within HHS. Requires DHHS to adopt rules.

Section 31 – Immediate Effective Date

Amendment Analysis

H-8266 by Bergan - Starting in 2032, requires DHHS to review the HHS districts every 10 years. Strikes Division II and instead requires DHHS to collaborate with the AAAs on redesignation and not apply for any change prior to January 2027. Requires DHHS submit a report to the legislature the results of the collaboration by December 15, 2026.