

**Amendment - 1st Reading/2nd House-blue - Requested by: Ed Buttrey - (S) Business, Labor and Economic Affairs**

- 2025

69th Legislature 2025

Drafter: Jameson Walker,

HB0585.001.001

HOUSE BILL NO. 585

INTRODUCED BY E. BUTTREY, S. NOVAK, W. MCKAMEY, K. SULLIVAN

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT DEFINING THE MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT CONVERSION FACTOR FOR PHYSICAL THERAPIST, SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST, AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST SERVICES; REVISING DEFINITIONS; PROVIDING RULEMAKING AUTHORITY; AMENDING SECTION 53-6-124, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

**NEW SECTION. Section 1. Physical therapist, speech-language pathologist, and occupational therapist services reimbursement.** (1) The fee for a covered service provided by a physical therapist, speech-language pathologist, or occupational therapist under the medicaid program is determined by multiplying the conversion factor times the relative value unit for that service times any applicable policy adjusters.

(2) (a) For state fiscal year 2026, the conversion factor is \$39.56.

(b) For each subsequent fiscal year, ~~the conversion factor must be increased, at a minimum, by the same percentage increase as the department may adjust the conversion factor upward in a manner to achieve an overall change in provider expenditures equivalent to~~ the consumer price index for medical care for the previous year, as calculated by the bureau of labor statistics of the United States department of labor.

**Section 2.** Section 53-6-124, MCA, is amended to read:

**"53-6-124. Definitions.** As used in 53-6-125, 53-6-127, [section 1], and this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Conversion factor" means the dollar value that is multiplied by the appropriate relative value unit to calculate a price for a service provided by a physician, physical therapist, speech-language pathologist, or occupational therapist.