

HCS HB 2355 -- MO HEALTHNET WAIVER FOR NUTRITION SERVICES (Jones (88))

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Standing Committee on Health and Mental Health

This bill establishes the "Food is Medicine Act", requiring the Department of Social Services to apply to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, within the Federal Department of Health and Human Services, for a Section 1115 demonstration waiver to implement the "Food is Medicine" program.

The program must be designed to improve health outcomes for MO HealthNet participants with nutrition-related chronic diseases through nutrition services.

The bill specifies the covered nutrition services under this program, and specifies that whenever feasible, the MO HealthNet Division, within the Department of Social Services must prioritize the inclusion of community-based organizations and local growers to support the purchase of locally grown food.