

BY: Environmental Matters Committee

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 233

(Third Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, strike in their entirety lines 2 and 3 and substitute "Health Care Services - Thriving by Three Program"; strike beginning with "requiring" in line 4 down through "Program" in line 6 and substitute "establishing a Thriving by Three Program; requiring the Department to contract with certain insurance carriers to provide services under the Program; requiring the Program to provide certain benefits; establishing certain criteria for eligibility for the Program; requiring certain individuals to pay certain premiums and provide copies of certain tax returns under certain circumstances; requiring the Department to conduct a certain study and submit a certain report; requiring the Department to apply for certain federal funds; and generally relating to the Thriving by Three Program"; in line 7, strike "with" and substitute "without"; and after line 11, insert:

"BY renumbering

Article - Health - General

Section 15-103.1

to be Section 15-103.2

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1994 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article - Health - General

Section 15-103.1

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1994 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)".

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, in line 18, strike the brackets; and strike beginning with the semicolon in line 20 down through "LEVEL" in line 24, inclusive.

(Over)

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 2, after line 30, insert:

“15-103.1.

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) “ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL” MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE BENEFITS UNDER THE PROGRAM IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION.

(3) “PROGRAM” MEANS THE THRIVING BY THREE PROGRAM.

(B) THERE IS A THRIVING BY THREE PROGRAM IN THE DEPARTMENT.

(C) AN INDIVIDUAL MAY RECEIVE BENEFITS UNDER THE PROGRAM IF THE INDIVIDUAL:

(1) HAS A FAMILY INCOME AT OR BELOW 200% OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL;

(2) DOES NOT HAVE ACCESS TO EMPLOYER-BASED PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE AND HAS NOT VOLUNTARILY TERMINATED PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE WITHIN THE PRECEDING 6 MONTHS; AND

(3) (I) IS A WOMAN WHO IS PREGNANT OR UP TO 2 MONTHS POSTPARTUM; OR

(II) IS A CHILD WHO IS YOUNGER THAN 4 YEARS OLD.

(D) SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS OF THE STATE BUDGET, THE PROGRAM SHALL PROVIDE A LIMITED BENEFITS PACKAGE THAT CONSISTS OF:

(1) FOR EACH ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL WHO IS A PREGNANT OR

POSTPARTUM WOMAN:

(I) PRENATAL SERVICES AND EDUCATION;

(II) DELIVERY FEES;

(III) PRESCRIPTION DRUGS;

(IV) LABORATORY AND X-RAY SERVICES;

(V) FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES; AND

(VI) MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES; AND

(2) FOR EACH ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL WHO IS A CHILD YOUNGER THAN 4 YEARS OLD:

(I) BASIC PHYSICIAN CHECKUPS, HEALTH SCREENINGS, AND IMMUNIZATIONS;

(II) LABORATORY TESTS AND X RAYS;

(III) PRESCRIPTION DRUGS;

(IV) VISION, HEARING, AND DENTAL CARE; AND

(V) NUTRITION COUNSELING.

(E) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF DIVISION II OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE, CONTRACT WITH MANAGED CARE ORGANIZATIONS, HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS, INSURERS, OR OTHER CARRIERS TO PROVIDE SERVICES UNDER THE PROGRAM.

(Over)

(2) THE DEPARTMENT AND THE MANAGED CARE ORGANIZATIONS, HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS, INSURERS, OR OTHER CARRIERS WHO CONTRACT TO PROVIDE SERVICES UNDER THE PROGRAM SHALL PUBLICIZE THE PROGRAM AND MAKE OTHER OUTREACH EFFORTS THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

(F) (1) EACH ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL SHALL PAY AN ANNUAL PREMIUM IN ACCORDANCE WITH A SLIDING PREMIUM SCALE ESTABLISHED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

(2) THE ANNUAL PREMIUM SHALL VARY DEPENDING ON THE ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL'S FAMILY INCOME, BUT MAY NOT BE LESS THAN:

(I) \$50 FOR AN ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL WHO IS A CHILD YOUNGER THAN 4 YEARS OLD; AND

(II) \$100 FOR AN ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL WHO IS A PREGNANT OR POSTPARTUM WOMAN.

(3) THE ANNUAL PREMIUM MAY BE PAID ON A QUARTERLY BASIS.

(G) EACH INDIVIDUAL WHO APPLIES TO RECEIVE BENEFITS UNDER THE PROGRAM SHALL SUBMIT TO THE DEPARTMENT A COPY OF THE MOST RECENT TAX RETURN OF THE INDIVIDUAL AND THE INDIVIDUAL'S FAMILY MEMBERS.

(H) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 4

On page 1, in line 13, after “That” insert “Section(s) 15-103.1 of Article - Health - General of the Annotated Code of Maryland be renumbered to be Section(s) 15-103.2.”

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That”.

On page 2, before line 31, insert:

“SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene shall study and report to the Senate Finance Committee, the House Environmental Matters Committee, and, in accordance with § 2-1312 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly on or before July 1, 1998 on:

(1) The feasibility of paying managed care organizations, health maintenance organizations, insurers, and other carriers that participate in the Thriving by Three Program on a capitated basis; and

(2) The cost of providing services under the Program, the sliding premium scale established by the Department, and the amount of money eligible individuals pay in annual premiums.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Department shall apply to the federal Health Care Financing Administration and take all other steps necessary to secure federal funds for the Thriving by Three Program.”;

and in line 31, strike “2.” and substitute “5.”.