
By: The President (Administration) and Senators Currie, Derr, Dorman, Hollinger, Forehand, Middleton, Ruben, Young, Trotter, Neall, Kasemeyer, Kelley, Hoffman, Madden, and Pinsky

Introduced and read first time: January 17, 1997

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Expansion of Eligibility for Low and Moderate**
3 **Income Pregnant Women and Children**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to provide
5 certain health care benefits to certain individuals under certain circumstances; and
6 generally relating to eligibility under the Maryland Medical Assistance Program.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article - Health - General
9 Section 15-103(a)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (1994 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
13 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 **Article - Health - General**

15 15-103.

16 (a) (1) The Secretary shall administer the Maryland Medical Assistance
17 Program.

18 (2) The Program:

19 (i) Subject to the limitations of the State budget, shall provide
20 comprehensive medical and other health care services for indigent individuals or
21 medically indigent individuals or both;

22 (ii) Shall provide, subject to the limitations of the State budget,
23 comprehensive medical and other health care services for all eligible pregnant women
24 and, at a minimum, all children currently under the age of 1 whose family income falls
25 below 185 percent of the poverty level, as permitted by the federal law;

26 (iii) Shall provide, subject to the limitations of the State budget, family
27 planning services to women currently eligible for comprehensive medical care and other

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1 health care under item (ii) of this paragraph for 5 years after the second month following
2 the month in which the woman delivers her child;

3 (iv) Shall provide, subject to the limitations of the State budget,
4 comprehensive medical and other health care services for all children from the age of 1
5 year up through and including the age of 5 years whose family income falls below 133
6 percent of the poverty level, as permitted by the federal law;

7 (v) Shall provide, subject to the limitations of the State budget,
8 comprehensive medical care and other health care services for all children born after
9 September 30, 1983 who are at least 6 years of age but are under 19 years of age whose
10 family income falls below 100 percent of the poverty level, as permitted by federal law;

11 (vi) May include bedside nursing care for eligible Program recipients;
12 [and]

13 (vii) Shall provide services in accordance with funding restrictions
14 included in the annual State budget bill;

15 (VIII) SHALL PROVIDE, SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS OF THE STATE
16 BUDGET, MEDICAL AND OTHER HEALTH CARE FOR CHILDREN FROM BIRTH
17 THROUGH AND INCLUDING THE AGE OF 3 YEARS AND PREGNANT WOMEN WHOSE
18 FAMILY INCOME FALLS BELOW 250% OF THE POVERTY LEVEL; AND

19 (IX) SHALL PROVIDE, SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS OF THE STATE
20 BUDGET, MEDICAL AND OTHER HEALTH CARE FOR CHILDREN FROM THE AGE OF 4
21 YEARS UP THROUGH AND INCLUDING THE AGE OF 18 YEARS WHOSE FAMILY
22 INCOME FALLS BELOW 185% OF THE POVERTY LEVEL.

23 (3) Subject to restrictions in federal law or waivers, the Department may
24 impose cost-sharing on Program recipients.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
26 July 1, 1997.