
By: **Senators Miller, Bromwell, and Van Hollen**
Introduced and read first time: February 24, 2000
Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Children and Families Health Care Program**

3 FOR the purpose of altering a certain eligibility requirement for certain individuals to
4 participate in the Children and Families Health Care Program; repealing the
5 requirement that certain individuals pay a certain annual family contribution
6 amount to participate in the Program; and generally relating to the Children
7 and Families Health Care Program.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article - Health - General
10 Section 15-301
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (1994 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

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

15 **Article - Health - General**

16 15-301.

17 (a) In this section, "carrier" means:

18 (1) An insurer;

19 (2) A nonprofit service plan;

20 (3) A health maintenance organization; or

21 (4) Any other person that provides health benefit plans subject to
22 regulation by the State.

23 (b) There is a Children and Families Health Care Program.

24 (c) The Children and Families Health Care Program shall provide, subject to
25 the limitations of the State budget and any other requirements imposed by the State

1 and as permitted by federal law or waiver, comprehensive medical care and other
2 health care services to an individual who has a family income at or below [200] 300
3 percent of the federal poverty level and who is under the age of 19 years.

4 (d) The Children and Families Health Care Program shall be administered
5 through the program under Subtitle 1 of this title requiring individuals to enroll in
6 managed care organizations.

7 [(e) (1) In this subsection, "family contribution" means the portion of the
8 premium cost paid by an eligible individual to enroll and participate in the Children
9 and Families Health Care Program.

10 (2) On or before July 1, 2000 and in addition to any other requirements
11 of this subtitle, as a requirement to enroll and maintain participation in the Children
12 and Families Health Care Program, an individual's parent or guardian shall agree to
13 pay an annual family contribution amount determined by the Department in
14 accordance with paragraph (3) of this subsection.

15 (3) (i) For eligible individuals whose family income is at or above 185
16 percent of the federal poverty level, the Department shall develop an annual family
17 contribution amount payment system such that the cost of the family contribution is
18 at least 1 percent of the annual family income but does not exceed 2 percent of the
19 annual family income.

20 (ii) The Department shall determine by regulation the schedules
21 and the method of collection for the family contribution amount under subparagraph
22 (i) of this paragraph.

23 (iii) Before collecting a family contribution from any individual, the
24 Department shall provide the individual with notice of the requirements of the family
25 contribution amount and the options available to the individual to make premium
26 payments.]

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
28 June 1, 2000.