

SENATE BILL 26

C3, J1

8lr4608

By: **Senator Mooney**

Introduced and read first time: October 29, 2007

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Children's Health Program – Limitation of Eligibility**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the income eligibility requirements for the Maryland
4 Children's Health Program; altering the amounts of certain family contributions
5 under the Maryland Children's Health Program premium plan; making certain
6 technical changes; and generally relating to the Maryland Children's Health
7 Program.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article – Health – General
10 Section 15–301 and 15–301.1
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2005 Replacement Volume and 2007 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) There is a Maryland Children's Health Program.

18 (b) The Maryland Children's Health Program shall provide, subject to the
19 limitations of the State budget and any other requirements imposed by the State and
20 as permitted by federal law or waiver, comprehensive medical care and other health
21 care services to an individual who has a family income at or below [300 percent] **200%**
22 of the federal poverty guidelines and who is under the age of 19 years.

23 (c) The Maryland Children's Health Program shall be administered:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (1) [Except as provided in item (3) of this subsection, for] **FOR**
2 individuals whose family income is at or below [200 percent] **100%** of the federal
3 poverty guidelines, through the Program under Subtitle 1 of this title requiring
4 individuals to enroll in managed care organizations; **OR**

5 (2) For eligible individuals whose family income is above [200 percent]
6 **100%**, but at or below [300 percent] **200%** of the federal poverty guidelines, through
7 the MCHP premium plan under § 15–301.1 of this subtitle[; or

8 (3) In fiscal year 2004 only, for eligible individuals whose family
9 income is above 185 percent, but at or below 300 percent of the federal poverty
10 guidelines, through the MCHP premium plan under § 15–301.1 of this subtitle].

11 (d) (1) The Department shall provide eligible individuals and health care
12 providers with an accurate directory or other listing of all available providers:

13 (i) In written form, made available upon request; and

14 (ii) On an Internet database.

15 (2) The Department shall update the Internet database at least every
16 30 days.

17 (3) The written directory shall include a conspicuous reference to the
18 Internet database.

19 15–301.1.

20 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

21 (2) “Eligible individual” means an individual who qualifies to
22 participate in the Maryland Children’s Health Program under § 15–301(b) of this
23 subtitle.

24 (3) “Family contribution” means the portion of the premium cost paid
25 for an eligible individual to enroll and participate in the Maryland Children’s Health
26 Program.

27 (4) “MCHP premium plan” means the plan established under this
28 section to provide access to health insurance coverage to eligible individuals through
29 managed care organizations under the Maryland Children’s Health Program.

30 (b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, this section applies
31 only to individuals whose family income is above [200 percent] **100%**, but at or below
32 [300 percent] **200%** of the federal poverty guidelines.

1 (c) (1) As a requirement of enrollment and participation in the MCHP
2 premium plan, the parent or guardian of an eligible individual shall agree to pay the
3 following annual family contribution:

4 (i) [In fiscal year 2004 only, for an eligible individual whose
5 family income is above 185 percent, but at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty
6 guidelines, an amount equal to 2 percent of the annual income of a family of two at
7 185 percent of the federal poverty guidelines;

8 (ii)] For an eligible individual whose family income is above [200
9 percent] **100%**, but at or below [250 percent] **150%** of the federal poverty guidelines,
10 an amount equal to 2 [percent] % of the annual income of a family of two at [200
11 percent] **100%** of the federal poverty guidelines; and

12 [(iii)] **(II)** For an eligible individual whose family income is above
13 [250 percent] **150%**, but at or below [300 percent] **200%** of the federal poverty
14 guidelines, an amount equal to 2 [percent] % of the annual income of a family of two
15 at [250 percent] **150%** of the federal poverty guidelines.

16 (2) The family contribution amounts required under paragraph (1) of
17 this subsection apply on a per family basis regardless of the number of eligible
18 individuals each family has enrolled in the MCHP premium plan.

19 (d) The Department shall adopt regulations necessary to implement this
20 section.

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
22 June 1, 2008.