SENATE BILL 778

By: Senator Lam
Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2022
Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Maryland Medical Assistance Program – Children and Pregnant Women
(Healthy Babies Equity Act)

FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Program to provide comprehensive medical care and other health care services to certain noncitizen pregnant women and their children up to a certain age; and generally relating to the Maryland Medical Assistance Program.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Health – General
Section 15–103(a)(1)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2019 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Health – General
Section 15–103(a)(2)(xvi) and (xvii)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2019 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Health – General
Section 15–103(a)(2)(xviii)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2019 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

Article – Health – General

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
(a) (1) The Secretary shall administer the Maryland Medical Assistance Program.

(2) The Program:

(xvi) Beginning on January 1, 2021, shall provide, subject to the limitations of the State budget and § 15–855(b)(2) of the Insurance Article, and as permitted by federal law, services for pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders associated with streptococcal infections and pediatric acute onset neuropsychiatric syndrome, including the use of intravenous immunoglobulin therapy, for eligible Program recipients, if pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders associated with streptococcal infections and pediatric acute onset neuropsychiatric syndrome are coded for billing and diagnosis purposes in accordance with § 15–855(d) of the Insurance Article; [and]

(xvii) Beginning on January 1, 2022, may not include, subject to federal approval and limitations of the State budget, a frequency limitation on covered dental prophylaxis care or oral health exams that requires the dental prophylaxis care or oral health exams to be provided at an interval greater than 120 days within a plan year; AND

(XVIII) SHALL PROVIDE, SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS OF THE STATE BUDGET, COMPREHENSIVE MEDICAL CARE AND OTHER HEALTH CARE SERVICES TO NONCITIZEN PREGNANT WOMEN WHO WOULD BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE PROGRAM BUT FOR THEIR IMMIGRATION STATUS AND TO THEIR CHILDREN UP TO THE AGE OF 1 YEAR.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, in implementing the requirements of Section 1 of this Act, the Maryland Department of Health shall apply for the waiver from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services that maximizes federal funding and the individuals who would be eligible for the Maryland Medical Assistance Program benefit required under Section 1 of this Act.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2022.