
**Health Care & Wellness
Committee**

HB 1120

Brief Description: Providing a health coverage buy-in program for families with children with disabilities.

Sponsors: Representatives Cody, Lantz, Green, Ormsby, Schual-Berke, B. Sullivan, Dickerson, Clibborn, Morrell, Kenney, Moeller, Wallace, Santos and Simpson.

Brief Summary of Bill

- The Department of Social and Health Services will offer Medicaid coverage for disabled children in families with household incomes up to 300% of the federal poverty level under the Family Opportunity Act option included in the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005.

Hearing Date: 1/24/07

Staff: Dave Knutson (786-7146).

Background:

The Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 offers State the option to expand Medicaid coverage to children with disabilities up to age 18, who would be eligible for Supplemental Security Income disability benefits but for their income or resources. Families with household income up to 300% of the federal poverty level (FPL) would be eligible to participate in the program. States may require families to pay monthly premiums based on a sliding scale. If parents have employer-provided health plans, they are required to apply for, enroll in, and pay these premiums. The aggregate annual amount of all premiums cannot exceed 5% of a family's income below 200% of the FPL, and 7.5% of a family's income between 200% and 300% of the FPL.

Summary of Bill:

The Department of Social and Health Services will offer Medicaid coverage for disabled children in families with household incomes up to 300% of the federal poverty level under the Family Opportunity Act option included in the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.