
OLR Bill Analysis

SB 909

AN ACT CONCERNING CHANGES TO THE HUSKY B PROGRAM.

SUMMARY

This bill prohibits copayments under HUSKY B (the state's Children's Health Insurance Program, see BACKGROUND) from exceeding copayments paid by active state employees enrolled in one of the state's point of enrollment health care plans. Under current law, these copayments must be equal.

The bill also repeals the HUSKY Plus program, which provides supplemental coverage for HUSKY B enrollees with intensive physical health needs that exceed the basic benefit package (e.g., provides power wheelchairs as a service benefit). It makes several technical and conforming changes to remove program references in statute.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

BACKGROUND

HUSKY B

HUSKY B provides medically necessary health care coverage for uninsured children under age 19 in families with household incomes between 196% and 318% of the federal poverty limit who do not qualify for HUSKY A (Medicaid). Unlike Medicaid, it is a capped program (i.e., a block grant), and, as such, the federal government annually determines the share of program funding it will pay to the state each year.

Families receiving HUSKY B services must contribute towards the care cost, and these contributions rise as family income rises. There are no cost-sharing requirements, however, for members who qualify for HUSKY Plus services.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 19 Nay 0 (03/09/2021)