



General Assembly

February Session, 2024

Raised Bill No. 397

LCO No. 2552



Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES

Introduced by:
(HS)

AN ACT EXPANDING MEDICAID COVERAGE OF SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CARE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section, (1)
2 "Title I" means Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act,
3 P.L. 89-10, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act, P.L.114-95,
4 and (2) "Title I school" means a school with a high percentage of students
5 from low-income households that qualifies for federal financial
6 assistance under Title I.

7 (b) The Commissioner of Social Services, in consultation with the
8 Commissioner of Education, shall seek federal approval for a Medicaid
9 waiver to provide Medicaid coverage for health care of all students at a
10 Title I school and all students at a school who qualify for free or reduced
11 price lunches regardless of whether they qualify for services under the
12 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 USC 1400 et seq., as
13 amended from time to time, or Medicaid income eligibility guidelines.
14 The commissioner shall seek approval for such waiver in accordance
15 with section 17b-8 of the general statutes not later than October 1, 2024.

16 (c) The Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the
17 Commissioner of Social Services, shall develop an "opt out" form for
18 parents or legal guardians of students who do not wish such students to
19 have health services covered under Medicaid. The Commissioner of
20 Education shall make such form available via United States mail or on
21 the Internet web site of the Department of Education in multiple
22 languages, including, but not limited to, English, Polish, French,
23 Portuguese, Spanish and other languages consistent with the
24 demographic profile of students enrolled in bilingual education
25 programs in kindergarten through twelfth grade in the state.

26 (d) The Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the
27 Commissioner of Social Services, shall develop a list of services eligible
28 for Medicaid reimbursement to be disseminated to each local or regional
29 board of education. The Commissioner of Social Services shall make
30 grant payments to local or regional boards of education in amounts
31 representing eighty per cent of the federal portion of Medicaid claims
32 processed for students. Such grant payments shall be made on at least a
33 quarterly basis and may represent estimates of amounts due to local or
34 regional boards of education.

35 (e) Not later than January first annually, the Commissioner of Social
36 Services, in consultation with the Commissioner of Education, shall file
37 a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general
38 statutes, on Medicaid reimbursement for school health services with the
39 joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance
40 of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies,
41 children, education and human services. The report shall include
42 recommendations on expanding Medicaid services provided in schools.

43 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2024*) The Commissioner of Social
44 Services shall amend the Medicaid state plan to provide Medicaid
45 coverage for health care services in school nurse's offices for eligible
46 students in addition to school-based health centers.

47 Sec. 3. Subdivision (5) of subsection (a) of section 10-76d of the 2024

48 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
49 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

50 (5) Beginning with the fiscal year ending June 30, [2004] 2025, the
51 Commissioner of Social Services shall make grant payments to local or
52 regional boards of education in amounts representing [fifty] eighty per
53 cent of the federal portion of Medicaid claims processed for Medicaid
54 eligible special education and related services provided to Medicaid
55 eligible students in the school district. Beginning with the fiscal year
56 ending June 30, 2009, the commissioner shall exclude any enhanced
57 federal medical assistance percentages in calculating the federal portion
58 of such Medicaid claims processed. Such grant payments shall be made
59 on at least a quarterly basis and may represent estimates of amounts due
60 to local or regional boards of education. Any grant payments made on
61 an estimated basis, including payments made by the Department of
62 Education for the fiscal years prior to the fiscal year ending June 30,
63 2000, shall be subsequently reconciled to grant amounts due based upon
64 filed and accepted Medicaid claims and Medicaid rates. If, upon review,
65 it is determined that a grant payment or portion of a grant payment was
66 made for ineligible or disallowed Medicaid claims, the local or regional
67 board of education shall reimburse the Department of Social Services for
68 any grant payment amount received based upon ineligible or
69 disallowed Medicaid claims.

70 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established an
71 interagency coalition to coordinate and make recommendations
72 concerning maximizing federal funding for Medicaid-eligible health
73 services in public schools in the state.

74 (b) The coalition shall convene not later than sixty days after the
75 effective date of this section and shall meet at least quarterly. The
76 coalition shall consist of:

77 (1) The Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee;

78 (2) The Commissioner of Social Services, or the commissioner's
79 designee; and

80 (3) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the
81 secretary's designee.

82 (c) Not later than January first annually, the coalition shall file a
83 report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general
84 statutes, with the joint standing committees of the General Assembly
85 having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets
86 of state agencies, children, education and human services. The report
87 shall include, but need not be limited to: (1) The number of school
88 children receiving Medicaid-covered health services in the prior school
89 year and any increase or decrease in the percentage of such students per
90 total student enrollment; (2) steps taken to expand Medicaid coverage
91 of student health services, including, but not limited to, any Medicaid
92 waivers or state plan amendments; and (3) a survey of efforts in other
93 states to expand Medicaid-covered health services for students.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10-76d(a)(5)
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To require the Commissioner of Social Services to seek federal approval to expand Medicaid coverage to all students in schools with a high percentage of students from low-income households and to establish an interagency coalition to maximize Medicaid funding of school health services.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]