

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2976

To amend title XXI of the Social Security Act to allow States to provide health benefits coverage for parents of children eligible for child health assistance under the State children's health insurance program.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 27, 2000

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. BYRD, and Mrs. BOXER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend title XXI of the Social Security Act to allow States to provide health benefits coverage for parents of children eligible for child health assistance under the State children's health insurance program.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the "Family Health Insur-
5 ance Program Act of 2000".

1 **SEC. 2. STATE OPTION TO PROVIDE HEALTH BENEFITS**
 2 **COVERAGE FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN ELI-**
 3 **GIBLE FOR CHILD HEALTH ASSISTANCE**
 4 **UNDER THE STATE CHILDREN'S HEALTH IN-**
 5 **SURANCE PROGRAM.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title XXI of the Social Security
 7 Act (42 U.S.C. 1397aa et seq.) is amended by adding at
 8 the end the following new section:

9 **“SEC. 2111. OPTIONAL COVERAGE OF PARENTS OF TAR-**
 10 **GETED LOW-INCOME CHILDREN.**

11 “(a) OPTIONAL COVERAGE.—Notwithstanding any
 12 other provision of this title, a State child health plan may
 13 provide for coverage, through an amendment to its State
 14 child health plan under section 2102, of parental health
 15 assistance for targeted low-income parents in accordance
 16 with this section.

17 “(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

18 “(1) PARENTAL HEALTH ASSISTANCE.—The
 19 term ‘parental health assistance’ has the meaning
 20 given the term child health assistance in section
 21 2110(a) as if any reference to targeted low-income
 22 children were a reference to targeted low-income
 23 parents.

24 “(2) TARGETED LOW-INCOME PARENT.—The
 25 term ‘targeted low-income parent’ means an indi-
 26 vidual who—

1 “(A) is a parent of a targeted low-income
2 child or of a child who would be a targeted low-
3 income child but for the child’s eligibility for
4 medical assistance under title XIX; and

5 “(B) otherwise satisfies the requirements
6 for a child to be a targeted low-income child (as
7 described in section 2110(b)).

8 “(3) PARENT.—The term ‘parent’ means an in-
9 dividual who is a caretaker relative of a child de-
10 scribed in paragraph (2)(A). Such term includes
11 parents, stepparents with whom the child resides,
12 appointed guardians, grandparents, and other rel-
13 atives.

14 “(c) REFERENCES TO TERMS AND SPECIAL
15 RULES.—In the case of, and with respect to, a State pro-
16 viding for coverage of parental health assistance to tar-
17 geted low-income parents under subsection (a), the fol-
18 lowing special rules apply:

19 “(1) Any reference in this title (other than in
20 subsection (b)) to a targeted low-income child is
21 deemed to include a reference to a targeted low-in-
22 come parent.

23 “(2) Any such reference to child health assist-
24 ance with respect to such a parent is deemed a ref-
25 erence to parental health assistance.

1 “(3) Any such reference to a child (other than
2 in section 2104(b)) is deemed a reference to a par-
3 ent of such child.

4 “(4) In applying section 2103(e)(3)(B) in the
5 case of a parent provided coverage under this sec-
6 tion, the limitation on total annual aggregate cost-
7 sharing shall be applied to the entire family.

8 “(5) Section 2105(c)(3) shall be applied without
9 regard to subparagraph (A).

10 “(6) Section 1905(u)(2)(A) shall be applied as
11 if any reference to optional targeted low-income chil-
12 dren includes a reference to targeted low-income
13 parents.

14 “(d) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this
15 section shall be construed—

16 “(1) as affecting—

17 “(A) the total amount available for allot-
18 ments under section 2104(a); or

19 “(B) the amount of the allotment provided
20 to a State under section 2104(b); or

21 “(2) as requiring a State to provide parental
22 health assistance to all targeted low-income par-
23 ents.”.

1 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
2 this section applies to items and services furnished on or
3 after October 1, 2000.

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