

2016 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 473 (Substitute of Senate Bill No. 362 by Senator Johns)

BY SENATOR JOHNS

MEDICAID. Provides for the Louisiana Health Insurance Premium Payment Program. (gov sig)

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AN ACT

To enact Part VIII of Chapter 3 of Title 46 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 46:451 through 455, relative to the Louisiana Medical Assistance Program; to provide for the Health Insurance Premium Assistance Program; to provide for rules and regulations; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Part VIII of Chapter 3 of Title 46 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 46:451 through 455, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

PART VIII. LOUISIANA HEALTH INSURANCE

PREMIUM PAYMENT PROGRAM

§451. Legislative intent

The Legislature of Louisiana finds that it is in the best interest of the state of Louisiana to operate a premium assistance program in the Medicaid program that would require Medicaid recipients to enroll or maintain enrollment in their employer-sponsored insurance plan when doing so would be cost effective to the state of Louisiana and ensure that Medicaid functions as the payer of last resort.

1 **§452. Health insurance premium payment program; creation**

2 **A. There is hereby created the Louisiana Health Insurance Premium**
3 **Payment Program. The program shall be implemented and administered by the**
4 **Department of Health and Hospitals in accordance with federal law and**
5 **regulations.**

6 **B. The program shall be within the Medicaid program and shall be made**
7 **available to any Medicaid recipient when it is determined that it would be cost**
8 **beneficial to the state to cover the expenses of allowing an individual who is**
9 **Medicaid eligible to enroll or remain enrolled in any available employer-**
10 **sponsored health insurance plan when compared to the costs the state would**
11 **incur if the Medicaid program were to provide primary coverage directly**
12 **through the Medicaid program.**

13 **§453. HIPP recipients; Medicaid managed care**

14 **A. The department shall conduct a survey of all existing Medicaid**
15 **enrollees to identify the current Medicaid enrollees that have an opportunity to**
16 **access employer-sponsored insurance coverage either directly or through a**
17 **family member. The department shall further develop and execute a plan to**
18 **transition those Medicaid enrollees identified in the survey to**
19 **employer-sponsored coverage as soon as it is appropriate.**

20 **B. The department shall exclude from participation in a managed care**
21 **organization any Medicaid recipient who is enrolled in the Health Insurance**
22 **Premium Payment Program.**

23 **§454. Rules and regulations**

24 **The secretary of the department shall promulgate all rules and**
25 **regulations, in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure**
26 **Act, that may be necessary and proper to implement the provisions of this Part.**

27 **§455. Reporting**

28 **The department shall submit a report annually, no later than January**
29 **fifteenth each year, to the House and Senate committees on health and welfare**

1 that includes the following:

2 (1) The total number of Medicaid enrollees included in the Health
3 Insurance Premium Payment Program and the total number of cost-benefit
4 evaluations performed by the department.

5 (2) The total amount of premium paid on behalf of the Medicaid
6 enrollees in the program and the total savings to the state.

7 (3) A description of the algorithm used by the department to determine
8 the cost benefit to the state of enrolling Medicaid recipients into the Louisiana
9 Health Insurance Premium Payment Program.

10 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
11 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
12 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
13 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
14 effective on the day following such approval.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Christine Arbo Peck.

DIGEST

SB 473 Original

2016 Regular Session

Johns

Proposed law establishes the Louisiana Health Insurance Premium Payment Program within the Medicaid program to assist with employer sponsored insurance coverage. Proposed law excludes this population from Bayou Health.

Proposed law provides rule making authority for DHH and provides for an annual report by January 15 each year which includes (1) the total number of enrollees, (2) total premiums paid, and (3) description of algorithm to determine cost benefit of utilizing this program.

Effective upon signature of the governor or upon lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 46:451- 455)