
DIGEST

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Norton

HB No. 759

Abstract: Requires that La. Medicaid eligibility standards conform to those established by the Affordable Care Act.

Proposed law requires the secretary of the Dept. of Health and Hospitals to take actions on or before Oct. 1, 2014, as are necessary to cause this state's participation in the expansion of Medicaid eligibility as provided by the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Provides that such actions shall include:

- (1) Filing the Medicaid state plan amendment necessary to expand eligibility in accordance with proposed law.
- (2) Promulgating all rules and regulations as are necessary to expand Medicaid eligibility in accordance with proposed law.

Proposed law declares that the purposes of the state in expanding Medicaid eligibility as provided in proposed law are as follows:

- (1) To maximize the number of Louisianians who are covered by some form of health insurance.
- (2) To provide basic health coverage to the working poor of the state who are not offered insurance through their employer and do not earn enough money to meet basic family needs and pay for private health insurance.
- (3) To assure health care providers who serve low- to moderate-income persons of some amount of compensation for the care they provide, as the ACA provides for a dramatic reduction in funding to federal programs which currently finance care for the uninsured as a means of financing the Medicaid expansion.
- (4) To avert the economic and human costs of crises in both access to health care and health services financing which are likely to result from not participating in the expansion of Medicaid while other federal sources of financing for medical care for the uninsured and the indigent are being drastically reduced or eliminated.

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

(Adds R.S. 46:979.11-979.13)