

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 20

BY SENATOR WHEAT

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To memorialize the United States Congress and to urge the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to authorize states to implement a presumption of Medicaid eligibility during redetermination for elderly and disabled beneficiaries and to allow exemption from annual redetermination requirements consistent with reforms enacted by the state of Florida.

WHEREAS, the Medicaid program provides critical health coverage to elderly individuals, persons with disabilities, and low-income individuals who rely on consistent access to care; and

WHEREAS, under federal Medicaid law, states must periodically redetermine eligibility for beneficiaries, which can create administrative burdens for state agencies and unnecessary disruptions in coverage for vulnerable populations; and

WHEREAS, interruptions in Medicaid eligibility often occur due to procedural issues rather than actual ineligibility, resulting in delays in care, increased administrative costs, and adverse health outcomes; and

WHEREAS, Florida enacted legislation in 2025 providing that individuals aged sixty-five or older or those determined to be disabled who were initially determined eligible for Medicaid shall be presumed eligible for continued coverage during the redetermination process unless there is a material change in disability or economic status; and

WHEREAS, under that policy, beneficiaries or their caregivers are required to notify the appropriate state agency of any material change in circumstances affecting eligibility, and the state may conduct a redetermination when such changes occur; and

WHEREAS, the Florida law further directs the state to seek federal authorization to exempt certain Medicaid-eligible disabled individuals from annual eligibility redetermination requirements in order to reduce administrative burdens and ensure continuity of care; and

WHEREAS, this approach maintains program integrity while improving administrative efficiency and protecting access to health care for vulnerable populations; and

WHEREAS, Florida's legislation recognizes that individuals who have already been determined eligible for Medicaid services should maintain coverage during the redetermination process absent a material change in their disability or financial circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the legislation also requires the responsible state agency to notify beneficiaries before conducting redeterminations and to provide the results of those redeterminations upon completion; and

WHEREAS, these reforms seek federal authorization to exempt Medicaid-eligible disabled individuals from annual redeterminations to simplify eligibility maintenance and improve program administration.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana memorializes the Congress of the United States and urges the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to authorize states to implement Medicaid eligibility redetermination reforms consistent with those adopted by the state of Florida.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Congress and CMS are urged to authorize states to:

(1) Establish a presumption of continued Medicaid eligibility for individuals aged sixty-five or older or determined to be disabled during the redetermination process unless there is a material change in disability or economic status.

(2) Require beneficiaries or their caregivers to report material changes in circumstances that may affect eligibility.

(3) Permit state Medicaid agencies to conduct redeterminations when such material changes occur.

(4) Allow states to seek federal authorization to exempt certain Medicaid-eligible disabled individuals from annual redetermination requirements, in order to simplify eligibility maintenance and improve continuity of care.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Legislature supports federal action that provides states greater flexibility to streamline Medicaid eligibility processes, reduce unnecessary administrative burdens, and ensure continuity of care for elderly and disabled beneficiaries.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted to the secretary of the United States Senate, the clerk of the United States House of Representatives, each member of the Louisiana delegation to the United States Congress, the secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services, and the administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES