

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 1385

H.P. 996

House of Representatives, April 27, 1989

Reference to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

Ed Pert

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative FOSS of Yarmouth.

Cosponsored by Senator BRANNIGAN of Cumberland and Senator CAHILL of Sagadahoc.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-NINE

An Act to Extend ASPIRE Transitional Medical Coverage.



1 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

3 Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3784, sub-§7, as enacted by PL 1987, c. 856,
5 §§7 and 10, is amended to read:

7 7. Effective date, sunset. Notwithstanding any other
9 provision of law, this section shall take effect on January 1,
11 1989 and shall be repealed on ~~June-30,-1989~~ March 31, 1990.

11 Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §3784-A is enacted to read:

13 1. Twelve-month extension. To families who become
15 ineligible for Aid to Families with Dependent Children on or
17 after April 1, 1990, the department shall provide extended
19 medical assistance in accordance with the United States Social
21 Security Act, Section 1925. If the eligible family chooses to
23 accept the 2nd 6-month extension provided in that Act,
25 eligibility during that period shall:

27 A. Terminate at the end of the first month in which the
29 family no longer includes a child who meets the definition
31 of a dependent child;

33 B. Terminate at the end of the month in which a premium is
35 due if the family fails without good cause to pay in a
37 timely fashion the premium described in subsection 2;

39 C. Terminate at the end of the first or 4th month of that
41 period if the family fails without good cause to report in a
43 timely fashion their gross monthly earnings and costs of
45 necessary child care;

47 D. Terminate at the end of the first or 4th month of that
49 period if the caretaker relative without good cause had no
51 earnings in one or more of the previous 3 months; or

E. Terminate at the end of the first or 4th month of that
period if the family's average gross earnings, less costs
for child care necessary for the employment of the caretaker
relative, during the preceding 3 months exceed 185% of the
official poverty line for the family's size.

2. Premium. If the family chooses to accept the 2nd
6-month extension, the department shall impose a premium for
extended coverage in accordance with the United States Social
Security Act, Section 1925(b) and the regulations promulgated
pursuant to that Act.

3. Coverage provided by private insurers. The department
may adopt the option available to the State under the United
States Social Security Act, Section 1925(a)(4) and, during the
initial 6-month extension and the 2nd 6-month extension

1 period, if accepted by the family, may pay the family's expense
3 for premiums, deductibles, copayments or similar costs for health
5 insurance or other health coverage available from any insurer
7 authorized to write insurance in this State, offered by the
9 employer of a caretaker relative or available from some other
program providing medical coverage, if doing so would be more
cost effective. The department shall require the caretaker
relative, as a condition of the extension of coverage under this
section, to apply for health coverage:

11 A. If that coverage is offered by an employer of the
13 caretaker relative or of the absent parent of a dependent
child; and

15 B. If the caretaker relative is not required to make a
17 financial contribution for that coverage.

19 4. Third-party liability. The department shall seek
21 reimbursement from any 3rd-party who is liable to pay for medical
23 care and services available under this section in all cases when
25 the amount of reimbursement the State reasonably expects to
recover exceeds the costs of recovery. Payments for premiums,
deductibles, coinsurance and similar expenses under this section
shall be considered to be payments for medical assistance.

27 STATEMENT OF FACT

29
31 The purpose of this bill is to extend transitional medical
33 coverage for up to 12 months to families who become ineligible
35 for Aid to Families with Dependent Children after April 1, 1990,
due to increased earnings from employment or loss of employment
disregards.