

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

No. 530

H.P. 385

House of Representatives, January 28, 1997

An Act to Extend Medicaid Coverage to Certain Children.

Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative KANE of Saco.
Cosponsored by Senator PENDLETON of Cumberland and
Representatives: CARLETON of Wells, LOVETT of Scarborough, O'NEIL of Saco, QUINT
of Portland, SAXL of Portland, Senators: MacKINNON of York, MURRAY of Penobscot,
PARADIS of Aroostook.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3174-G, sub-§1,** as enacted by PL 1989, c.
502, Pt. A, §72, is amended to read:

6 **1. Delivery of services.** The department shall provide for
7 the delivery of federally approved Medicaid services to qualified
8 pregnant women up to 60 days following delivery ~~and infants up to~~
9 ~~one year of age~~ when the woman's ~~ex-child's~~ family income is
10 below ~~185%~~ 133% of the nonfarm income official poverty line and
11 ~~children under 5 years of age and;~~ to qualified elderly and
12 disabled persons, when the ~~child's-ex~~ person's family income is
13 below 100% of the nonfarm income official poverty line; ~~and to~~
14 children under 19 years of age when the child's family income is
15 below 133% of the nonfarm income official poverty line. The
16 official poverty line shall ~~must~~ be that applicable to a family
17 of the size involved, as defined by the Federal Office of
18 Management and Budget and revised annually in accordance with the
19 United States Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981, Section
20 673, Subsection 2. ~~These services shall be effective October 1,~~
21 ~~1988.~~

22 **Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §3192** is enacted to read:

23 **§3192. Healthy Children's Trust Fund**

24 The Healthy Children's Trust Fund, referred to in this
25 section as the "trust fund," is established within the department
26 to finance the Medicaid services provided to children under 19
27 years of age pursuant to section 3174-G, subsection 1. The trust
28 fund does not lapse, but carries forward from one fiscal year to
29 the next. The commissioner shall oversee and administer the
30 trust fund.

31 **1. Interim funding.** For fiscal year 1998-99, funding must
32 be provided for the trust fund from the General Fund.

33 **2. Permanent funding.** For subsequent fiscal years, the
34 commissioner shall seek funding from outside sources, including
35 nonprofit hospital or medical service organizations. If the
36 commissioner determines that there is insufficient funding from
37 outside sources to fully fund the trust fund, then funding
38 sufficient to make up the shortfall must be provided from the
39 General Fund.

40 **SUMMARY**

41 This bill extends Medicaid coverage to children under the
42 age of 19 whose family income is below 133% of the nonfarm income
43 poverty line. This bill establishes the Healthy Children's Trust
44

2 Fund within the Department of Human Services to fund the Medicaid
expansion.

4 This bill provides that interim funding for the Healthy
6 Children's Trust Fund comes from the General Fund in fiscal year
1998-99. After the next fiscal year, the Commissioner of Human
8 Services is required to seek funding from outside sources such as
Maine Blue Cross/Blue Shield, who has agreed to participate in
10 the funding of the trust fund, absent unforeseen circumstances
that would prevent them from doing so. If sufficient funding is
12 unavailable, then the funds must be provided from the General
Fund.