

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

An Act To Increase Access to Health Coverage and Qualify Maine for Federal Funding

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3174-G, sub-§1, ¶F, as amended by PL 2011, c. 380, Pt. KK, §2, is further amended to read:

F. A person 20 to 64 years of age who is not otherwise covered under paragraphs A to E when the person's family income is below or equal to 125% of the nonfarm income official poverty line, provided that the commissioner shall adjust the maximum eligibility level in accordance with the requirements of the paragraph.

(2) If the commissioner reasonably anticipates the cost of the program to exceed the budget of the population described in this paragraph, the commissioner shall lower the maximum eligibility level to the extent necessary to provide coverage to as many persons as possible within the program budget.

(3) The commissioner shall give at least 30 days' notice of the proposed change in maximum eligibility level to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters; ~~and~~

Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §3174-G, sub-§1, ¶G, as enacted by PL 2011, c. 380, Pt. KK, §3, is amended to read:

G. A person who is a noncitizen legally admitted to the United States to the extent that coverage is allowable by federal law if the person is:

(1) A woman during her pregnancy and up to 60 days following delivery; or

(2) A child under 21 years of age;

Sec. 3. 22 MRSA §3174-G, sub-§1, ¶¶H and I are enacted to read:

H. Beginning January 1, 2014, a person 21 to 64 years of age who is not otherwise eligible for medical assistance under this section, who qualifies for medical assistance pursuant to 42 United States Code, Section 1396a(a)(10)(A)(i)(VIII) and who has income at or below 133% of the nonfarm income official poverty line plus 5% for the applicable family size as required by federal law. A person eligible for medical assistance under this paragraph must receive the same coverage as is provided to a person eligible under paragraph E; and

I. Beginning October 1, 2019, a person 19 or 20 years of age who is not otherwise eligible for medical assistance under this section, who qualifies for medical assistance pursuant to 42 United States Code, Section 1396a(a)(10)(A)(i)(VIII) and who has income at or below 133% of the nonfarm income official poverty line plus 5% for the applicable family size as required by federal law. A person eligible for medical assistance under this paragraph must receive the same coverage as is provided to a person eligible under paragraph E.

SUMMARY

This bill expands medical coverage under the MaineCare program to adults who qualify under federal law with incomes up to 133% of the nonfarm income official poverty line, with the 5% federal income adjustment for family size, and qualifies Maine to receive federal funding for 100% of the cost of coverage for members who enroll under the expansion. Adults who will be eligible are those 21 to 64 years of age beginning January 1, 2014 and adults 19 and 20 years of age beginning October 1, 2019.