H.430

Introduced by Committee on Health Care

Date:

Subject: Health; Agency of Human Services; Dr. Dynasaur; pregnant women; children; immigration

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to expand eligibility for Dr. Dynasaur to all income-eligible children and pregnant individuals, regardless of immigration status, by July 1, 2022. It would appropriate one-time funds to the Agency of Human Services to begin implementing the expansion and would direct the Agency to include the full costs of covering income-eligible pregnant women and children who are undocumented immigrants on Dr. Dynasaur in the Agency fiscal year 2023 budget proposal.

An act relating to expanding eligibility for Dr. Dynasaur to all income-eligible children and pregnant individuals regardless of immigration status

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 33 V.S.A. § 1901c is added to read:

§ 1901c. DR. DYNASAUR COVERAGE FOR UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS
The Agency of Human Services shall provide coverage under the Dr. Dynasaur program to children and pregnant individuals who are undocumented immigrants but who would otherwise be eligible for medical assistance from the State under Section 1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(III) of Title XIX of the Social Security Act.

Sec. 2. AGENCY OF HUMAN SERVICES; DR. DYNASAUR EXPANSION; APPROPRIATION

The sum of $1,400,000.00 in one-time funds is appropriated to the Agency of Human Services in fiscal year 2022 to begin implementation of the Dr. Dynasaur expansion set forth in Sec. 1 of this act, including language-appropriate outreach to the affected and health care provider communities.

Sec. 3. AGENCY OF HUMAN SERVICES; DR. DYNASAUR EXPANSION; FISCAL YEAR 2023 BUDGET PROPOSAL

The Agency of Human Services shall include the full costs of expanding Dr. Dynasaur eligibility to undocumented immigrants pursuant to 33 V.S.A. § 1901c in the Agency’s fiscal year 2023 budget proposal.

Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATES

(a) Sec. 2 (Agency of Human Services; Dr. Dynasaur expansion; appropriation) shall take effect on July 1, 2021.

(b) The remainder of this act shall take effect on passage, with the Agency of Human Services making coverage available to eligible undocumented
Sec. 2. AGENCY OF HUMAN SERVICES; OUTREACH AND PROVIDER GRANTS; IMPLEMENTATION; APPROPRIATION

The sum of $1,400,000.00 in one-time funds is appropriated to the Agency of Human Services in fiscal year 2022 to be used for the following purposes:

(1) grants or reimbursements, or both, to health care providers for delivering health care services during fiscal year 2022 to children and pregnant individuals who are undocumented immigrants;

(2) grants to Vermont organizations that work with members of Vermont’s undocumented immigrant community or with members of the health care provider community to provide outreach and information regarding opportunities for children and pregnant individuals in Vermont who are undocumented immigrants to access health care services at low or no cost in fiscal year 2022 and thereafter; and

(3) implementing the technological and operational processes necessary for the Department of Vermont Health Access to administer the Dr. Dynasaur expansion as set forth in 33 V.S.A. § 1901c beginning on July 1, 2022.
The Agency of Human Services shall provide information on the estimated fiscal year 2023 costs of expanding Dr. Dynasaur eligibility to undocumented immigrants pursuant to 33 V.S.A. § 1901c beginning on July 1, 2022 as part of the Agency’s fiscal year 2023 budget presentation to the House Committees on Appropriations and on Health Care and the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Health and Welfare.

Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATES

(a) Sec. 2 (Agency of Human Services; outreach and provider grants; implementation; appropriation) shall take effect on July 1, 2021.

(b) The remaining sections shall take effect on passage, with the Agency of Human Services making coverage available to eligible undocumented immigrants under Dr. Dynasaur in accordance with Sec. 1 (33 V.S.A. § 1901c) beginning on July 1, 2022, subject to fiscal year 2023 appropriations for this purpose.