

# Vermont Legislative Joint Fiscal Office

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## *FISCAL NOTE*

Date: Updated April 23, 2021

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### **H.430 – An act relating to ~~expanding~~ eligibility for Dr. Dynasaur-like coverage for ~~to~~ all income-eligible children and pregnant individuals regardless of immigration status**

*Senate Health & Welfare Proposal of Amendment*

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2022/H.430>

The bill as amended proposes to establish Dr. Dynasaur-like coverage for children and pregnant individuals who are not eligible for the Dr. Dynasaur program because of their immigration status.

Sec. 2 would appropriate \$1,400,000.00 in one-time state funds to the Agency of Human Services (AHS) in FY 2022 to be used for:

- Grants or reimbursements to health care providers for delivering health care services to children and pregnant individuals who have an immigration status for which Medicaid coverage is not available;
- 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; and
- Implementing the technological and operational processes necessary for the Department of Vermont Health Access (DVHA) to administer this coverage.

*Fiscal Impact: FY 2022 appropriation to AHS: \$1,400,000.00 (one-time state dollars)*

Sec. 3 would require AHS to provide information on the estimated FY 2023 costs of providing coverage to Vermont residents who have an immigration status for which Medicaid is not available as part of the Agency's FY 2023 budget presentation to specific legislative committees of jurisdiction.

Sec. 4 would make this coverage available beginning on July 1, 2022, subject to fiscal year 2023 appropriations for this purpose. Preliminary estimates provided by advocacy organizations are that this bill could affect as many as 22 undocumented pregnant women and 100 children. Based on this information, the expansion could cost as much as \$1.3 million annually, depending on uptake and outreach efforts.

- 22 undocumented pregnant women x a PMPM<sup>1</sup> of 3,807.00 = \$1,004,048.00
- 100 children at varying PMPMs – depending on what Medicaid eligibility group they qualify under – could have an estimated annualized cost of \$261,000.00.

*Fiscal Impact: the FY 2023 impact will be subject to the FY 2023 appropriation for this purpose.*

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<sup>1</sup> PMPM stands for per member per month.