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S.14

Introduced by Senators Hardy, Cummings, Gulick, Lyons, Vyhovsky, Watson
and White

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Health; Medicaid; Dr. Dynasaur; pregnant individuals; young adults

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to expand
eligibility for coverage under the Dr. Dynasaur program to pregnant
individuals with incomes up to 312 percent of the federal poverty level. The
bill would also direct the Agency of Human Services to report on the
feasibility and costs of expanding eligibility for Dr. Dynasaur coverage to all
Vermont residents up to 26 years of age with incomes up to 312 percent of the
federal poverty level and of expanding eligibility for Medicaid coverage to all
Vermont residents between 26 and 64 years of age within incomes up to 312
percent of the federal poverty level.

An act relating to expanding Dr. Dynasaur income eligibility for pregnant
individuals and exploring eligibility expansions for other populations

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

2 Sec. 1. 33 V.S.A. § 1901 is amended to read:

3 § 1901. ADMINISTRATION OF PROGRAM

4 * * *

5 (b) The Secretary shall make coverage under the Dr. Dynasaur program
6 established in accordance with Title XIX (Medicaid) and Title XXI (SCHIP) of
7 the Social Security Act available to pregnant individuals of any age whose
8 modified adjusted gross income is at or below 312 percent of the federal
9 poverty level for the applicable family size.

10 (c) The Secretary may charge a monthly premium, in amounts set by the
11 General Assembly, per family for pregnant ~~women~~ individuals and children
12 eligible for medical assistance under Sections 1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(III), (IV),
13 (VI), and (VII) of Title XIX of the Social Security Act, whose family income
14 exceeds 195 percent of the federal poverty level, as permitted under section
15 1902(r)(2) of that act. Fees collected under this subsection shall be credited to
16 the State Health Care Resources Fund established in section 1901d of this title
17 and shall be available to the Agency to offset the costs of providing Medicaid
18 services. Any co-payments, coinsurance, or other cost sharing to be charged
19 shall also be authorized and set by the General Assembly.

20 * * *

1 Sec. 2. EXPANDING ELIGIBILITY FOR DR. DYNASAUR AND
2 MEDICAID; AGENCY OF HUMAN SERVICES; REPORT

3 (a) The Agency of Human Services shall examine the feasibility of;
4 consider the need for a federal waiver or an amendment to Vermont's Global
5 Commitment to Health Section 1115 demonstration, or both, for; develop a
6 proposed implementation timeline and estimated costs of implementation for;
7 and estimate the programmatic costs of:

8 (1) expanding eligibility for Dr. Dynasaur to all Vermont residents up to
9 26 years of age with incomes at or below 312 percent of the federal poverty
10 level (FPL); and

11 (2) expanding eligibility for Medicaid for adults who are 26 years of age
12 or older but under 65 years of age and not pregnant to individuals with
13 incomes at or below 312 percent FPL.

14 (b) On or before January 15, 2026, the Agency shall report to the House
15 Committees on Health Care and on Appropriations and to the Senate
16 Committees on Health and Welfare and on Appropriations regarding:

17 (1) the feasibility of expanding eligibility for Dr. Dynasaur and
18 Medicaid as set forth in subsection (a) of this section;

19 (2) any federal waiver or Section 1115 demonstration amendment
20 needed for the eligibility expansions;

1 (3) the process for obtaining any necessary waiver or amendment and
2 the likelihood of receiving federal approval;

3 (4) the costs of the eligibility expansions, both programmatic costs and
4 technological and operational costs; and

5 (5) a reasonable timeline for implementing the eligibility expansions.

6 Sec. 3. APPROPRIATIONS

7 In fiscal year 2026, the sum of \$600,000.00 in Global Commitment funds is
8 appropriated to the Agency of Human Services to implement the Dr. Dynasaur
9 eligibility expansion set forth in Sec. 1 of this act.

10 (1) In fiscal year 2026, the sum of \$180,000.00 is appropriated from the
11 General Fund to the Agency of Human Services, Global Commitment
12 appropriation for the State match for implementation of the Dr. Dynasaur
13 eligibility expansion set forth in Sec. 1 of this act.

14 (2) In fiscal year 2026, the sum of \$420,000.00 in federal funds is
15 appropriated to the Agency of Human Services, Global Commitment
16 appropriation for implementation of the Dr. Dynasaur eligibility expansion set
17 forth in Sec. 1 of this act.

18 Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATES

19 (a) Sec. 1 (33 V.S.A. § 1901; Dr. Dynasaur eligibility expansion for
20 pregnant individuals) shall take effect on January 1, 2026.

21 (b) The remaining sections shall take effect on July 1, 2025.