

FEB 16 1999

COMMERCE AND REGULATION

HOUSE FILE

294

BY FOEGE

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____

Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____

Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act repealing the existing healthy and well kids in Iowa
2 program, providing health care coverage for children under an
3 expanded medical assistance program, providing transition
4 provisions, and providing an effective date.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 294

1 Section 1. Section 249A.3, subsection 1, paragraph g, Code
2 1999, is amended by striking the paragraph and inserting in
3 lieu thereof the following:

4 g. Is a child who has not attained nineteen years of age,
5 whose income is not more than two hundred percent of the
6 federal poverty level, as defined by the most recently revised
7 poverty income guidelines published by the United States
8 department of health and human services.

9 Sec. 2. CHILDREN'S HEALTH PLAN. The department of human
10 services shall do all of the following in providing health
11 insurance coverage under Title XXI of the federal Social
12 Security Act:

13 1. Enroll all children eligible, pursuant to section
14 249A.3, subsection 1, paragraph "g", in the medical assistance
15 program upon expiration of the child's enrollment in the HAWK-
16 I program pursuant to chapter 514I. All eligible children
17 enrolled in the HAWK-I program shall be enrolled in the
18 medical assistance program on or before June 30, 2000.

19 2. Close enrollment in the HAWK-I program upon enactment
20 of this Act. Notwithstanding section 249A.3, subsection 1,
21 paragraph "g", a child who would be eligible for participation
22 in the HAWK-I program prior to the date of enactment of this
23 Act, and who initially applies for the program on or after the
24 enactment of this Act, shall be enrolled in the medical
25 assistance program upon enactment of this Act.

26 3. Develop an outreach program that utilizes local
27 empowerment areas to identify and enroll potential eligible
28 children in the medical assistance program. If a local
29 empowerment area has not been established, the department
30 shall utilize area education agencies and school districts.

31 Sec. 3. Chapter 514I, Code 1999, is repealed.

32 Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE -- TRANSITION PROVISIONS.

1. Section 2, subsection 2, of this Act relating to
closing enrollment in the HAWK-I program takes effect upon
enactment.

1 2. Any enrollee in a health care plan pursuant to chapter
2 514I upon the effective date of this Act shall continue to
3 receive coverage under the plan until the initial term of the
4 plan expires.

5 EXPLANATION

6 This bill eliminates the existing healthy and well kids in
7 Iowa (HAWK-I) program beginning July 1, 1999, the effective
8 date of the bill if passed in the 1999 regular session, and
9 replaces the program by expanding coverage for these children
10 under the medical assistance program. The bill expands the
11 program by providing coverage to children whose income is up
12 to 200 percent of the federal poverty level. The current
13 HAWK-I program provides coverage to children whose income is
14 between 133 and 185 percent of the federal poverty level.

15 The bill also provides for transition of enrollees between
16 the HAWK-I and medical assistance programs and requires the
17 department of human services to utilize local empowerment
18 areas (or if none exists, area education agencies or school
19 districts) in providing outreach to enroll eligible children
20 in the program.

21 The current HAWK-I program is repealed July 1, 1999, the
22 effective date of the bill if passed in the 1999 regular
23 session. A child who initially applies for enrollment in the
24 HAWK-I program on or after the date of enactment of the bill,
25 and who would be eligible for participation under the criteria
26 for the HAWK-I program (i.e., income between 133 and 185
27 percent of poverty) is to be enrolled in the medical
28 assistance program, notwithstanding the limitation that the
29 medical assistance program only covers children whose income
30 is up to 133 percent of poverty.

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