



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 424

February Session, 2000

An Act Concerning The HUSKY Plans For Children's Health Insurance.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 17b-294 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (a) The commissioner shall, within available appropriations,
4 establish two supplemental health insurance programs, to be known as
5 HUSKY Plus programs, for enrollees of [the subsidized portion of] the
6 HUSKY Plan, Part B₂ [with family incomes which do not exceed three
7 hundred per cent of the federal poverty level,] whose medical needs
8 cannot be accommodated within the basic benefit package offered
9 enrollees. One program shall supplement coverage for those medically
10 eligible enrollees with intensive physical health needs and one shall
11 supplement coverage for those medically eligible enrollees with
12 intensive behavioral health needs. No waiting period for the approval
13 of an application or the commencement of coverage shall be imposed
14 under the HUSKY Plus programs.

15 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 17b-297 of the general statutes is
16 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

17 (a) The commissioner, in consultation with the Children's Health
18 Council, the Medicaid Managed Care Council and Infoline of

19 Connecticut, shall develop mechanisms for outreach for the HUSKY
20 Plan, Part A and Part B, including, but not limited to, development of
21 mail-in applications and appropriate outreach materials through the
22 Department of Revenue Services, the Labor Department, the
23 Department of Social Services, the Department of Public Health, the
24 Department of Children and Families and the Office of Protection and
25 Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities. Such outreach materials shall
26 include, but not be limited to, informational notices or pamphlets
27 regarding the HUSKY Plan, Part A and Part B, that the commissioner
28 shall make available, or cause to be made available, to any employer
29 that does not provide health insurance benefits to its employees. Such
30 informational notices or pamphlets shall be furnished to such
31 employers beginning not later than January 1, 2001, at no cost to such
32 employers.

33 Sec. 3. Section 17b-299 of the general statutes is amended by adding
34 subsection (d) as follows:

35 (NEW) (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (b) and (c)
36 of this section, no waiting period for the approval of an application or
37 the commencement of coverage shall be imposed under the HUSKY
38 Plan, Part B, in the case of any child with a disability.

39 Sec. 4. (NEW) On and after January 1, 2001, any employer that does
40 not provide health insurance benefits to its employees shall distribute
41 to each new employee an informational notice or pamphlet regarding
42 the HUSKY Plan, Part A and Part B, that is furnished by the
43 Commissioner of Social Services pursuant to section 17b-297 of the
44 general statutes, as amended by this act.

PH Committee Vote: Yea 25 Nay 0 JFS