



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 25

January Session, 2003

Substitute Senate Bill No. 212

Senate, March 17, 2003

The Committee on Human Services reported through SEN. HANDLEY of the 4th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR REVISIONS TO ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES ASSOCIATED WITH THE DELIVERY OF DENTAL SERVICES UNDER THE MEDICAID PROGRAM.

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) On or before January 1, 2004, the
2 Commissioner of Social Services shall revise the Connecticut Medical
3 Assistance Program Provider Manual to enact measures that shall
4 enhance and expedite the delivery of dental services to persons eligible
5 for such services under the Medicaid program. Such measures shall
6 include, but not be limited to: (1) Simplifying the application process
7 for providers of dental services; (2) creating a one-page renewal form
8 for current dental providers whose provider information has not
9 changed in the preceding two years; (3) prohibiting the imposition of
10 any charge on dental providers who file paper claims, provided such
11 dental providers meet or exceed the threshold requirement concerning
12 the number of patients treated; and (4) eliminating prior authorization
13 requirements for basic and routine dental services specifically covered

14 under the Medicaid program.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>

HS *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Type	FY 04 \$	FY 05 \$
Department of Social Services	GF - Cost	See Below	See Below

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This bill requires the Commissioner of the Department of Social Services to revise the Medicaid provider manual to enact measures to increase access to dental care for individuals eligible for Medicaid benefits. It is expected that the department will incur additional administrative costs to revise the manual and create new forms. These additional costs are expected to be minimal.

To the extent that these efforts increase Medicaid enrollees' access to and utilization of dental services, the state may incur additional service costs. Although dental costs for clients enrolled in the Medicaid Managed Care program are already part of the monthly per capita rate paid by the state, any increased utilization for clients in the fee-for-service portion of the Medicaid program will directly lead to increased costs. The extent of these potential increases cannot be estimated as it is unknown what changes the commissioner may make and how they will affect enrollment. The current FY04 projected cost for dental services under the fee-for-service program is \$8.7 million.

OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 212

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR REVISIONS TO ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES ASSOCIATED WITH THE DELIVERY OF DENTAL SERVICES UNDER THE MEDICAID PROGRAM**SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the Department of Social Services (DSS) commissioner to revise the Connecticut Medical Assistance Program Provider Manual to incorporate measures that enhance and expedite dental services delivery to Medicaid-eligible people. She must do this by January 1, 2004. The measures must include:

1. simplifying the application process for dental providers,
2. creating a one-page renewal form for current providers whose information has not changed in the preceding two years,
3. prohibiting imposing any charge on providers who file paper claims as long as they meet or exceed the required threshold of numbers of patients treated, and
4. eliminating prior authorization requirements for basic and routine dental services specifically covered under Medicaid.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 13 Nay 5