



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 15

January Session, 2003

Senate Bill No. 214

Senate, March 10, 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 bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING PAYMENT OF HUSKY PLAN, PART B PREMIUMS THROUGH PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2003*) (a) As used in this
2 section:

3 (1) "Employer" means a person, firm or corporation, engaged in
4 business who has one or more employees, including the state and any
5 political subdivision of the state; and

6 (2) "State funds" means any bond revenues or money appropriated
7 or allocated by the General Assembly.

8 (b) The state and any employer that (1) receives state funds, and (2)
9 has employees who are required to pay premiums in order to receive
10 benefits under the HUSKY Plan, Part B, as defined in section 17b-290
11 of the general statutes, shall, with the consent of an employee who
12 exercises such option, provide for the collection of HUSKY premiums

13 pursuant to section 17b-295 of the general statutes, through payroll
14 deductions.

15 Sec. 2. Section 17b-295 of the general statutes is repealed and the
16 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2003*):

17 (a) The commissioner may require the payment of a premium or
18 copayment in connection with services provided under the HUSKY
19 Plan, Part B in accordance with the following limitations:

20 (1) Until July 1, 1999, the maximum annual aggregate cost sharing
21 for a family with an income (A) which exceeds one hundred eighty-
22 five per cent of the federal poverty level but does not exceed two
23 hundred thirty-five per cent of the federal poverty level shall not be
24 more than six hundred fifty dollars, and (B) which exceeds two
25 hundred thirty-five per cent of the federal poverty level but does not
26 exceed three hundred per cent of the federal poverty level shall not be
27 more than one thousand two hundred fifty dollars;

28 (2) On and after July 1, 1999, the commissioner shall submit a
29 schedule for the maximum annual aggregate cost sharing for families
30 with an income specified in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subdivision
31 (1) of this subsection to the joint standing committees of the General
32 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human services,
33 public health, insurance and appropriations and the budgets of state
34 agencies. Within fifteen days of receipt of such schedule, said joint
35 standing committees of the General Assembly may advise the
36 commissioner of their approval, denial or modifications, if any, of the
37 schedule; and

38 (3) The commissioner shall require each managed care plan to
39 monitor copayments and premiums under the provisions of
40 subdivision (1) of this subsection.

41 (b) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, the
42 commissioner may impose limitations on the amount, duration and
43 scope of benefits under the HUSKY Plan, Part B.

44 (2) The limitations adopted by the commissioner pursuant to
45 subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not preclude coverage of any
46 item of durable medical equipment or service that is medically
47 necessary.

48 (c) The commissioner shall allow persons required to pay a
49 premium in connection with services provided under the HUSKY
50 Plan, Part B to pay such premiums through payroll deductions.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2003</i>

HS *Joint Favorable*

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: None

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 04 \$	FY 05 \$
All Municipalities	STATE MANDATE - Cost	Minimal	Minimal

Explanation

This bill requires the state, municipalities and any employer that receives state funds to allow employees to pay for HUSKY B premiums through a payroll deduction. This may result in a minimal workload increase and associated cost increase for municipalities due to increased paperwork associated with payroll deductions.

OLR Bill Analysis

SB 214

AN ACT CONCERNING PAYMENT OF HUSKY PLAN, PART B PREMIUMS THROUGH PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS.**SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the state, towns and other political subdivisions, and employers who receive state funds to make HUSKY B premium payments through payroll deductions for employees who ask for this service. The bill covers private employers with one or more employees that receive state appropriations or bond allocations. It explicitly requires the Department of Social Services to allow people who must pay HUSKY B premiums to do so through payroll deduction.

HUSKY B is available to children in families with incomes at or above 185% of the federal poverty level (FPL). Families with incomes at or above 235% of FPL (\$35,861 for a family of three) must pay some or all of the HUSKY B premium; families with incomes between 185% and 235% of FPL make copayments but do not pay premiums.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2003

COMMITTEE ACTION

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 18 Nay 0