



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 6402**

January Session, 2009

\*          HB06402HS          031909          \*

**AN ACT CONCERNING HUSKY REFORM.**

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

- 1       Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2009*) (a) Not later than January 1,  
2       2010, the Commissioner of Social Services shall seek federal  
3       reimbursement under the HUSKY program for the following services:  
4       (1) Screening of pregnant women and mothers of infants for behavioral  
5       health needs, including prenatal and postpartum depression, stress  
6       and anxiety; (2) medical services for a child under the age of five who  
7       is determined to be at high risk for a developmental disability due to a  
8       physical or mental condition of the child's mother, including, but not  
9       limited to, depression and substance abuse; (3) medical services for in-  
10      home therapy to a mother of an infant or a young child when the  
11      mother is diagnosed with depression and participates in a program  
12      certified by the Department of Social Services or the Department of  
13      Children and Families, including, but not limited to, the Child First  
14      program; (4) screening of new mothers for symptoms of postpartum  
15      depression during each visit to a licensed health care professional  
16      during the first six months after the birth of the child; and (5) mental  
17      health services provided by practitioners who participate in evidence-  
18      based models and are certified by the Department of Social Services or  
19      the Department of Children and Families.
- 20      (b) The Commissioner of Social Services shall study the results of

21 the screening services described in subsection (a) of this section. Not  
22 later than July 1, 2010, and annually thereafter, the commissioner shall  
23 submit a report on the results of such studies to the advisory council  
24 on Medicaid managed care, established pursuant to section 17b-28 of  
25 the general statutes.

26 Sec. 2. Section 17a-22i of the general statutes is amended by adding  
27 subsection (c) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2009*):

28 (NEW) (c) The Behavioral Health Partnership, in coordination with  
29 the administrative services organization, shall: (1) Develop HUSKY  
30 managed care organizations and professional associations that include  
31 providers of pediatric, obstetrics and gynecology services and family  
32 practitioners; (2) develop practitioner training for screening of prenatal  
33 and postpartum depression; and (3) provide referrals for services that  
34 are provided through the Behavioral Health Partnership.

35 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2009*) (a) Any licensed health care  
36 professional who provides prenatal care to a patient shall provide such  
37 patient with information concerning postpartum depression.

38 (b) Any licensed health care professional that provides postnatal  
39 care to a patient shall screen such patient for symptoms of postpartum  
40 depression during each visit during the first six months after the  
41 patient gives birth to the child.

42 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2009*) Not later than January 1, 2010,  
43 the Commissioner of Social Services shall develop and implement a  
44 provider-directed care coordination program for HUSKY recipients.  
45 The program shall provide payment to primary care providers for care  
46 coordination services provided to persons who require care beyond  
47 that offered by a primary care physician. To be eligible for such  
48 payment, a provider shall: (1) Develop written care plans that include  
49 evidence of family participation; (2) have staff members dedicated to  
50 care coordination; (3) maintain documentation of care plans; (4) be  
51 designated as the patient's provider by patient selection or by  
52 assignment, if the patient does not make any selection; (5) provide

53 services twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week; (6) arrange  
54 for the patient's comprehensive health care needs; and (7) provide  
55 integration, coordination and continuity of care with referrals for  
56 specialty care and other necessary health care services.

57 Sec. 5. Section 17b-260c of the general statutes is repealed and the  
58 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2009*):

59 [The] Not later than September 1, 2009, the Commissioner of Social  
60 Services shall apply for a Medicaid waiver, pursuant to Section 1115 of  
61 the Social Security Act, for the purpose of providing coverage for  
62 family planning services to adults in households with income that does  
63 not exceed one hundred eighty-five per cent of the federal poverty  
64 level and who are not otherwise eligible for Medicaid services. If the  
65 commissioner fails to apply for such waiver by said date, the  
66 commissioner shall, not later than September 15, 2009, submit a written  
67 report in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint  
68 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
69 matters relating to human services explaining the reasons for such  
70 failure.

71 Sec. 6. Section 17b-278a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
72 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2009*):

73 The Commissioner of Social Services shall amend the Medicaid state  
74 plan to provide coverage for treatment for smoking cessation ordered  
75 by a licensed health care professional who possesses valid and current  
76 state licensure to prescribe such drugs. [in accordance with a plan  
77 developed by the commissioner to provide smoking cessation services.  
78 The commissioner shall present such plan to the joint standing  
79 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
80 relating to human services and appropriations by January 1, 2003, and,  
81 if such plan is approved by said committees and funding is provided  
82 in the budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2004, such plan shall  
83 be implemented on July 1, 2003. If the initial treatment provided to the  
84 patient for smoking cessation, as allowed by the plan, is not successful

85 as determined by a licensed health care professional, all prescriptive  
86 options for smoking cessation shall be available to the patient.]

87       Sec. 7. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than January 1,  
88 2010, the Commissioner of Social Services shall apply for a waiver of  
89 federal law under the Health Insurance Flexibility and Accountability  
90 demonstration initiative for the purpose of extending health insurance  
91 coverage under Medicaid to persons qualifying for medical assistance  
92 under (1) the state-administered general assistance program, and (2)  
93 the Charter Oak Health Plan, established pursuant to section 17b-311  
94 of the general statutes. The commissioner shall submit, in accordance  
95 with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, the  
96 application for the waiver to the joint standing committees of the  
97 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human  
98 services and appropriations prior to submitting the application to the  
99 federal government in accordance with section 17b-8 of the general  
100 statutes.

101       (b) If the commissioner fails to submit the application for the waiver  
102 to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having  
103 cognizance of matters relating to human services and appropriations  
104 by January 1, 2010, the commissioner shall submit a written report to  
105 said committees not later than January 2, 2010. The report shall  
106 include, but not be limited to: (1) An explanation of the reasons for  
107 failing to seek the waiver; and (2) an estimate of the cost savings that  
108 would result from the approval of the waiver in one calendar year.

109       Sec. 8. Section 17b-257a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
110 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2009*):

111       (a) Qualified aliens, as defined in [section] Section 431 of Public Law  
112 104-193, admitted into the United States prior to August 22, 1996, shall  
113 be eligible for Medicaid provided other conditions of eligibility are  
114 met. Qualified aliens admitted into the United States on or after  
115 August 22, 1996, shall be eligible for Medicaid subsequent to five years  
116 from the date admitted, except if the individual is otherwise qualified

117 for the purposes of state receipt of federal financial participation under  
 118 Title IV of Public Law 104-193, such individual shall be eligible for  
 119 Medicaid regardless of the date admitted.

120 (b) Not later than January 1, 2010, the Commissioner of Social  
 121 Services shall seek federal funds to provide medical assistance to  
 122 qualified alien children and pregnant women whose date of admission  
 123 into the United States is less than five years before the date services are  
 124 provided.

125 Sec. 9. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2009*) Not later than January 1, 2010,  
 126 the Commissioner of Social Services shall apply for a waiver from the  
 127 State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), under Section  
 128 1115 of the Social Security Act, 42 USC 1315, as amended from time to  
 129 time, to provide funding for supports and services to children with  
 130 special health care needs in home and community settings. The  
 131 commissioner shall seek such waiver to expand services available  
 132 under the HUSKY Plus supplemental benefits package and to extend  
 133 HUSKY Plus supplemental benefits regardless of income through a  
 134 buy-in premium based option.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	17a-22i
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	17b-260c
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	17b-278a
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	17b-257a
Sec. 9	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	New section

**HS**            *Joint Favorable Subst.*