



**Substitute Senate Bill No. 1026**

**Special Act No. 13-7**

**AN ACT CONCERNING AN ADEQUATE PROVIDER NETWORK TO ENSURE POSITIVE HEALTH OUTCOMES FOR LOW-INCOME RESIDENTS.**

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

Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Council on Medical Assistance Program Oversight, established pursuant to section 17b-28 of the general statutes, or a subcommittee of said council, shall study obstacles to achieving an adequate health care provider network for Medicaid recipients and recommend, not later than January 1, 2014, strategies to improve (1) access to such providers, and (2) health outcomes for such recipients across racial and ethnic lines.

(b) The study shall include, but not be limited to, an analysis of: (1) Administrative burdens faced by providers, (2) the extent and benefits of provider education concerning provision of care to Medicaid recipients, and (3) the effect of Medicaid rates of reimbursement on achieving an adequate provider network.

(c) The study shall identify strategies to (1) improve access to Medicaid providers by Medicaid recipients, (2) improve health outcomes of all Medicaid recipients, (3) reduce spending rates, particularly for the provision of care to Medicaid recipients with the

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costliest health needs, and (4) reduce racial and ethnic disparities in health outcomes.

(d) Not later than January 1, 2014, the Council on Medical Assistance Program Oversight shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations, with a corresponding fiscal analysis, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human services and public health, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

Approved June 3, 2013