

Chapter 248

(House Bill 953)

AN ACT concerning

Maryland Health Benefit Exchange – State–Based Young Adult Health Insurance Subsidies Pilot Program – Amount of Annual Subsidies

FOR the purpose of altering the amount of funds the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange is authorized to designate for annual subsidies under the State–Based Young Adult Health Insurance Subsidies Pilot Program for certain fiscal years to include unspent funds designated for subsidies for young adults in a previous calendar year; and generally relating to the State–Based Young Adult Health Insurance Subsidies Pilot Program.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
 Article – Insurance
 Section 31–122(a), (d), (f), and (g)
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 Article – Insurance
 Section 31–122(e)
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Insurance

31–122.

(a) In this section, “Pilot Program” means the State–Based Young Adult Health Insurance Subsidies Pilot Program.

(d) (1) For calendar years 2022 through 2025, the Exchange, in consultation with the Commissioner and as approved by the Board, shall establish subsidy eligibility and payment parameters for the Pilot Program.

(2) In determining the subsidy eligibility and payment parameters required under paragraph (1) of this subsection, the Exchange shall consider:

(i) young adults at least 18 years old and under the age of 41 years;
 and

(ii) income groups between 133% and 400% of the federal poverty level.

(e) **(1)** Subject to available funds **AND PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION**, in each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026, the Exchange may designate funds from the Fund to be used for the Pilot Program so that [not more than \$20,000,000 in] annual subsidies may be provided to young adults who meet the subsidy eligibility and payment parameters established under subsection (d) of this section.

(2) FOR EACH OF CALENDAR YEARS 2024 AND 2025, THE FUNDS DESIGNATED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION MAY NOT EXCEED \$20,000,000 PLUS ANY UNSPENT FUNDS DESIGNATED FOR SUBSIDIES FOR YOUNG ADULTS IN A PREVIOUS CALENDAR YEAR.

(f) The Exchange shall adopt regulations implementing the provisions of this section.

(g) The Exchange shall adopt regulations to provide a subsidy to cover 100% of the cost of the premium for young adults who have a 0% expected contribution under the subsidy eligibility parameters established under subsection (d) of this section.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has been passed by a ye and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is enacted.

Approved by the Governor, April 25, 2024.