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HOUSE BILL 25

**52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2015**

INTRODUCED BY

James Roger Madalena and Sheryl Williams Stapleton

FOR THE LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC ASSISTANCE; ENACTING A NEW SECTION OF THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE ACT TO REQUIRE THE SECRETARY OF HUMAN SERVICES TO ESTABLISH A MEDICAID HOME VISITING SERVICES FOR INFANTS BORN TO MEDICAID RECIPIENTS AND FOR THE INFANTS' FAMILIES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. A new section of the Public Assistance Act is enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] MEDICAID INFANT AND FAMILY HOME VISITING PROGRAM.--

A. Consistent with the federal act and subject to the appropriation and availability of federal and state funds, the secretary shall establish a home visiting program to provide home visiting services for infants who are born to

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1     medicaid recipients and for the infants' families. The home  
2     visiting program shall provide for at least six visits where  
3     home visiting services are provided to an infant or the  
4     infant's family during the infant's first year of life.

5             B. As used in this section, "home visiting program"  
6     means a program that:

7                     (1) uses home visiting as a primary service  
8     delivery strategy;

9                     (2) offers services to an infant and the  
10    infant's family that the infant's family receives on a  
11    voluntary basis;

12                    (3) provides a comprehensive array of services  
13    that:

14                             (a) are designed to promote child  
15    well-being and prevent adverse childhood experiences;

16                             (b) promote parental competence and  
17    successful early childhood health and development by building  
18    long-term relationships with families and optimizing the  
19    relationships between parents and children in their home  
20    environments; and

21                             (c) deliver a variety of informational,  
22    educational, developmental, referral and other supports to an  
23    infant and the infant's family;

24                    (4) is research-based and grounded in  
25    relevant, empirically based best practices and knowledge that

1 is linked to and measures the following outcomes:

2 (a) infants who are nurtured by their  
3 parents and caregivers;

4 (b) children who are physically and  
5 mentally healthy;

6 (c) infants and families who are safe;  
7 and

8 (d) families who are connected to formal  
9 and informal supports in their communities;

10 (5) has comprehensive home visiting standards  
11 that ensure high-quality service delivery and continuous  
12 quality improvement;

13 (6) has demonstrated significant, sustained  
14 positive outcomes;

15 (7) follows program standards that the  
16 secretary has established by rule and that specify the purpose,  
17 outcomes, duration and frequency of home visiting services;

18 (8) follows research-based protocols;

19 (9) employs well-trained and competent staff  
20 and provides continual professional supervision and development  
21 relevant to the specific program or model being delivered;

22 (10) demonstrates strong links to other  
23 community-based services;

24 (11) operates within an organization that  
25 ensures compliance with home visiting standards;

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1 (12) continually evaluates performance to  
2 ensure fidelity to the program standards;  
3 (13) collects data on program activities and  
4 program outcomes; and  
5 (14) is culturally and linguistically  
6 appropriate."

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