



General Assembly

January Session, 2023

***Raised Bill No. 977***

LCO No. 3834



Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES

Introduced by:  
(HS)

***AN ACT CONCERNING MEDICAL ASSISTANCE FOR SURGERY AND  
MEDICAL SERVICES RELATED TO TREATMENT OF OBESITY.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) (1) As used in this section,  
2 "bariatric surgery" means surgical changes to the digestive system to  
3 help an obese patient lose weight;

4 (2) "Body mass index" means the number calculated by dividing an  
5 individual's weight in kilograms by the individual's height in meters  
6 squared;

7 (3) "Medical services" means prescription drug treatment and  
8 nutritional counseling;

9 (4) "Severe obesity" means a body mass index that is:

10 (A) Greater than forty; or

11 (B) Thirty-five or more if an individual has been diagnosed with a  
12 comorbid disease or condition, including, but not limited to, a  
13 cardiopulmonary condition, diabetes, hypertension or sleep apnea; and

14 (5) "Obese" means a body mass index of thirty or higher.

15 (b) The Commissioner of Social Services shall provide medical  
16 assistance for (1) bariatric surgery and related medical services for  
17 Medicaid and HUSKY B beneficiaries with severe obesity, and (2)  
18 medical services for obese Medicaid and HUSKY B beneficiaries with a  
19 body mass index greater than thirty-five, provided such beneficiaries  
20 otherwise meet conditions set by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid  
21 Services for such surgery and medical services. If necessary, the  
22 commissioner may amend the Medicaid state plan and the state plan for  
23 the Children's Health Insurance Program to implement the provisions  
24 of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2023	New section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To expand medical assistance for treatment of obesity.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*