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HOUSE BILL 371

54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2019

INTRODUCED BY

Rebecca Dow and Deborah A. Armstrong

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC ASSISTANCE; ENACTING A NEW SECTION OF THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE ACT TO REQUIRE THE HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO FACILITATE THE AUTOMATIC ENROLLMENT OF CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS INTO MEDICARE PART B COVERAGE.

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 QUALIFIED MEDICARE BENEFICIARY RECIPIENTS--MEDICARE PART B COVERAGE AUTOMATIC ENROLLMENT.--

A. The department shall provide for the automatic enrollment into medicare part B coverage of individuals:

(1) whom it deems eligible for participating in the qualified medicare beneficiary program; and

(2) who are not enrolled in medicare part B

underscored material = new
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underscoring material = new
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1 coverage.

2 B. By August 1, 2019, the secretary shall adopt and
3 promulgate rules to provide for informing, verbally and in
4 writing, applicants for and recipients of qualified medicare
5 beneficiary coverage that, if they are enrolled in the
6 qualified medicare beneficiary program and, at the time of
7 enrollment they are not enrolled in medicare part B, they are
8 eligible for automatic enrollment in medicare part B coverage,
9 regardless of whether general or "open" enrollment of medicare
10 part B beneficiaries is allowed under federal law at the time a
11 qualified medicare beneficiary program recipient enrolls in the
12 qualified medicare beneficiary program.

13 C. As used in this section:

14 (1) "medicare part B" means the supplemental
15 medical insurance program provided under part B of Title 18 of
16 the federal Social Security Act; and

17 (2) "qualified medicare beneficiary program"
18 means the joint state-federal medical assistance program that
19 provides for payment of recipients' premiums under part A of
20 Title 18 of the federal Social Security Act and recipients'
21 coinsurance and deductible amounts on services covered under
22 medicare part B."