

PREMIUM SUBSIDY AMENDMENTS

2020 SIXTH SPECIAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: James A. Dunnigan

Senate Sponsor: Luz Escamilla

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill amends the maximum premium subsidy the Department of Health can request for the Utah Premium Partnership for Health Insurance program.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ amends the maximum premium subsidy the Department of Health can request for the Utah Premium Partnership for Health Insurance program in fiscal year 2020-21;

and

- ▶ permits the Department of Health to increase that maximum in subsequent fiscal years subject to:

- increases in premium costs; and
- appropriations.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

This bill provides a special effective date.

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

26-18-3.8, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2020, Fifth Special Session, Chapters 4 and 20

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

30 Section 1. Section **26-18-3.8** is amended to read:

31 **26-18-3.8. Maximizing use of premium assistance programs -- Utah's Premium**
32 **Partnership for Health Insurance.**

33 (1) (a) The department shall seek to maximize the use of Medicaid and Children's
34 Health Insurance Program funds for assistance in the purchase of private health insurance
35 coverage for Medicaid-eligible and non-Medicaid-eligible individuals.

36 (b) The department's efforts to expand the use of premium assistance shall:

37 (i) include, as necessary, seeking federal approval under all Medicaid and Children's
38 Health Insurance Program premium assistance provisions of federal law, including provisions
39 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Public Law 111-148;

40 (ii) give priority to, but not be limited to, expanding the state's Utah Premium
41 Partnership for Health Insurance Program, including as required under Subsection (2); and

42 (iii) encourage the enrollment of all individuals within a household in the same plan,
43 where possible, including enrollment in a plan that allows individuals within the household
44 transitioning out of Medicaid to retain the same network and benefits they had while enrolled
45 in Medicaid.

46 (2) The department shall seek federal approval of an amendment to the state's Utah
47 Premium Partnership for Health Insurance program to adjust the eligibility determination for
48 single adults and parents who have an offer of employer sponsored insurance. The amendment
49 shall:

50 (a) be within existing appropriations for the Utah Premium Partnership for Health
51 Insurance program; and

52 (b) provide that adults who are up to 200% of the federal poverty level are eligible for
53 premium subsidies in the Utah Premium Partnership for Health Insurance program.

54 (3) For the fiscal year 2020-21, the department shall seek authority to increase the
55 maximum premium subsidy per month for adults under the Utah Premium Partnership for
56 Health Insurance program to \$300.

57 (4) Beginning with the fiscal year 2021-22, and in each subsequent fiscal year, the

58 department may increase premium subsidies for single adults and parents who have an offer of
59 employer-sponsored insurance to keep pace with the increase in insurance premium costs,
60 subject to appropriation of additional funding.

61 Section 2. **Effective date.**

62 If approved by two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, this bill takes effect
63 upon approval by the governor, or the day following the constitutional time limit of Utah
64 Constitution, Article VII, Section 8, without the governor's signature, or in the case of a veto,
65 the date of veto override.