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H.199

Introduced by Representatives Christie of Hartford, Andriano of Orwell,
Berbeco of Winooski, Black of Essex, Burrows of West
Windsor, Cina of Burlington, Cordes of Lincoln, Garofano of
Essex, Goldman of Rockingham, Graning of Jericho, LaMont
of Morristown, Masland of Thetford, Mrowicki of Putney,
Mulvaney-Stanak of Burlington, Pajala of Londonderry, and
Torre of Moretown

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Health; Agency of Human Services; health care; immigration

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to expand
eligibility for health care coverage to all income-eligible individuals over 18
years of age who are ineligible for Medicaid and for premium tax credits on
the Vermont Health Benefit Exchange due to their immigration status, by July
1, 2024.

An act relating to expanding eligibility for health insurance to all income-
eligible adults regardless of immigration status

1 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

2 Sec. 1. 33 V.S.A. chapter 19, subchapter 9 is amended to read:

3 Subchapter 9. Coverage for Additional Populations

4 § 2091. ~~DR. DYNASAUR-LIKE COVERAGE~~ IMMIGRANT HEALTH

5 INSURANCE PLAN; LEGISLATIVE INTENT

6 (a) Dr. Dynasaur-like coverage. In establishing ~~Dr. Dynasaur-like~~
7 ~~coverage~~ Immigrant Health Insurance Plan coverage for children and pregnant
8 individuals who are not eligible for the Dr. Dynasaur program because of their
9 immigration status, it is the intent of the General Assembly that the hospital,
10 medical, dental, and prescription drug benefits and eligibility criteria for the
11 coverage set forth in section 2092 of this chapter should align to the greatest
12 extent practicable with the benefits and eligibility criteria of the Dr. Dynasaur
13 program.

14 (b) Medicaid-like coverage. In establishing Immigrant Health Insurance
15 Plan coverage for individuals over 18 years of age who are not eligible for
16 Medicaid for Children and Adults and for premium tax credits to purchase a
17 qualified health plan on the Vermont Health Benefit Exchange due to their
18 immigration status, it is the intent of the General Assembly that the hospital,
19 medical, dental, and prescription drug benefits and eligibility criteria for the
20 coverage set forth in section 2092 of this chapter should align to the greatest

1 extent practicable with the benefits and eligibility criteria of the Medicaid for
2 Children and Adults program.

3 § 2092. ~~DR. DYNASAUR-LIKE~~ IMMIGRANT HEALTH INSURANCE
4 PLAN; COVERAGE FOR CERTAIN VERMONT RESIDENTS

5 (a) As used in this section, the term “Vermont residents who have an
6 immigration status for which Medicaid coverage is not available” includes
7 migrant workers who are employed in seasonal occupations in this State.

8 (b) The Agency of Human Services shall provide hospital, medical, dental,
9 and prescription drug coverage equivalent to coverage in the Vermont
10 Medicaid ~~State Plan~~ state plan to the following categories of Vermont residents
11 who have an immigration status for which Medicaid coverage is not available
12 and who are otherwise uninsured:

13 (1) children under 19 years of age whose household income does not
14 exceed the income threshold for eligibility under the Vermont Medicaid ~~State~~
15 ~~Plan~~ state plan; ~~and~~

16 (2) pregnant individuals whose household income does not exceed the
17 income threshold for eligibility under the Vermont Medicaid ~~State Plan~~ state
18 plan for coverage during their pregnancy and for postpartum coverage
19 equivalent to that available under the Vermont Medicaid ~~State Plan~~. state plan;
20 and

1 (3) individuals over 18 years of age whose household income does not
2 exceed the income threshold for eligibility under the Vermont Medicaid state
3 plan and who are ineligible for premium tax credits to purchase a qualified
4 health benefit plan on the Vermont Health Benefit Exchange due to their
5 immigration status.

6 (c) The confidentiality provisions set forth in section 1902a of this chapter
7 shall apply to all applications submitted and records created pursuant to this
8 section, except that the Agency of Human Services shall not make any
9 information regarding applicants or enrollees available to the United States
10 government.

11 (d) The Agency of Human Services may adopt rules in accordance with 3
12 V.S.A. chapter 25 to carry out the purposes of this section.

13 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

14 This act shall take effect on passage, with the Agency of Human Services
15 making coverage available to Vermont residents in accordance with Sec. 1

16 (33 V.S.A. § 2092) beginning on July 1, 2024.