

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 168—ASSEMBLYMEN BUCKLEY, LESLIE, PARKS, GERHARDT, CONKLIN, ANDERSON, ARBERRY, ATKINSON, BEERS, BOBZIEN, CARPENTER, CLABORN, DENIS, HARDY, HOGAN, HORNE, KIHUEN, KIRKPATRICK, KOIVISTO, MANENDO, MCCLAIN, MUNFORD, OCEGUERA, OHRENSCHALL, PARNELL, PIERCE, SEGERBLOM, SMITH, STEWART AND WOMACK

FEBRUARY 23, 2007

JOINT SPONSORS: SENATORS WIENER,
WASHINGTON AND WOODHOUSE

Referred to Concurrent Committees on
Health and Human Services and Ways and Means

SUMMARY—Makes various changes concerning expanding health insurance to make health insurance available to more residents of Nevada. (BDR 38-1144)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Contains Appropriation not included in Executive Budget.

~

EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to health care; increasing the income threshold used to establish eligibility of pregnant women for certain programs that provide health care; providing for a subsidy to be made available to certain employees or their spouses toward health insurance; making appropriations; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

- 1 Existing law requires the Director of the Department of Health and Human
- 2 Services to apply to the Federal Government for a waiver pursuant to the Health
- 3 Insurance Flexibility and Accountability demonstration initiative to provide certain
- 4 health care benefits to more residents of Nevada for which matching funds are



* A B 1 6 8 *

5 available from the Federal Government. (NRS 422.2726) Existing law further
6 provides that the waiver is to provide coverage for services to pregnant women
7 whose income is not more than 185 percent of the federally designated level
8 signifying poverty. (NRS 422.2727) **Section 1** of this bill increases that income
9 threshold to 200 percent of the federally designated level signifying poverty.
10 Existing law further provides that the waiver is to provide a monthly subsidy of up
11 to \$100 toward a policy of insurance purchased by an employee or the spouse of an
12 employee who works for certain small employers if the employee or spouse meet
13 certain requirements. **Section 1** requires the Director, if the waiver is authorized
14 only for employees or the spouses of employees who have children, to include the
15 subsidy in its state plan, to the extent that money is available for that purpose, for
16 employees or their spouses who do not have children but would otherwise qualify
17 for the subsidy pursuant to the waiver.

18 **Section 2** of this bill provides an appropriation in the amount of \$4,500,000 for
19 each fiscal year of the biennium to pay for the cost of increasing the income
20 threshold for making pregnant women eligible for coverage through the waiver.

21 **Section 3** of this bill provides an appropriation in the amount of \$6,000,000 for
22 each fiscal year to pay for the cost of providing the subsidy toward a policy of
23 insurance provided to employees or their spouses who do not have children.

24 **Section 4** of this bill provides an appropriation in the amount of \$4,500,000 for
25 each fiscal year to allow the Department of Health and Human Services to provide
26 insurance to more children through the Children's Health Insurance Program.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** NRS 422.2727 is hereby amended to read as
2 follows:

3 422.2727 1. The Director shall include in the application for
4 the Medicaid waiver pursuant to NRS 422.2726, to the extent
5 authorized by federal law, that the waiver is to:

6 ~~1-1~~ (a) Provide coverage for medical services to pregnant
7 women who have household incomes that are more than 133 percent
8 of the federally designated level signifying poverty but not more
9 than ~~185~~ 200 percent of the federally designated level signifying
10 poverty.

11 ~~1-2~~ (b) Provide a monthly subsidy of up to \$100 toward a
12 policy of insurance purchased by an employee or the spouse of an
13 employee:

14 ~~1-a~~ (1) Who works for an employer that employs at least 2 but
15 not more than 50 employees;

16 ~~1-b~~ (2) Whose household income is less than 200 percent of
17 the federally designated level signifying poverty; and

18 ~~1-c~~ (3) Who is otherwise ineligible for Medicaid.

19 ~~1-3~~ (c) Provide coverage for hospital care to persons who have
20 low incomes, **who** are otherwise ineligible for Medicaid and who
21 have a catastrophic illness or injury which results in unpaid charges



* A B 1 6 8 *

1 for hospital care. As used in this subsection, "hospital care" has the
2 meaning ascribed to it in NRS 428.155.

3 *2. If a waiver obtained to provide the subsidy set forth in*
4 *paragraph (b) of subsection 1 is only authorized for an employee*
5 *or spouse of an employee who has a child, the Director shall*
6 *include in the State Plan for Medicaid, to the extent that money is*
7 *available for that purpose, such a monthly subsidy which is made*
8 *available to an employee or the spouse of an employee who does*
9 *not have a child if the employee would otherwise qualify for such*
10 *a subsidy.*

11 **Sec. 2.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State
12 General Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services for
13 the cost of making additional pregnant women eligible for medical
14 services through the waiver applied for pursuant to NRS 422.2727
15 by increasing the income threshold for eligibility for such services
16 to not more than 200 percent of the federally designated level
17 signifying poverty:

18 For the Fiscal Year 2007-2008..... \$4,500,000
19 For the Fiscal Year 2008-2009..... \$4,500,000

20 2. The sums appropriated by subsection 1 are available for
21 either fiscal year. Any remaining balance of those sums must not be
22 committed for expenditure after June 30, 2009, by the entity to
23 which the appropriation is made or any entity to which money from
24 the appropriation is granted or otherwise transferred in any manner,
25 and any portion of the appropriated money remaining must not be
26 spent for any purpose after September 18, 2009, by either the entity
27 to which the money was appropriated or the entity to which the
28 money was subsequently granted or transferred, and must be
29 reverted to the State General Fund on or before September 18, 2009.

30 **Sec. 3.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State
31 General Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services to
32 include in the state plan a subsidy of up to \$100 toward a policy of
33 insurance purchased by an employee or the spouse of an employee
34 who does not have a child and who would otherwise qualify for
35 such a subsidy pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 1 of
36 NRS 422.2727:

37 For the Fiscal Year 2007-2008..... \$6,000,000
38 For the Fiscal Year 2008-2009..... \$6,000,000

39 2. The sums appropriated by subsection 1 are available for
40 either fiscal year. Any remaining balance of those sums must not be
41 committed for expenditure after June 30, 2009, by the entity to
42 which the appropriation is made or any entity to which money from
43 the appropriation is granted or otherwise transferred in any manner,
44 and any portion of the appropriated money remaining must not be
45 spent for any purpose after September 18, 2009, by either the entity



1 to which the money was appropriated or the entity to which the
2 money was subsequently granted or transferred, and must be
3 reverted to the State General Fund on or before September 18, 2009.

4 **Sec. 4.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State
5 General Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services to
6 allow the Department to provide insurance to additional children
7 through the Children's Health Insurance Program:

8 For the Fiscal Year 2007-2008..... \$4,500,000

9 For the Fiscal Year 2008-2009..... \$4,500,000

10 2. The sums appropriated by subsection 1 are available for
11 either fiscal year. Any remaining balance of those sums must not be
12 committed for expenditure after June 30, 2009, by the entity to
13 which the appropriation is made or any entity to which money from
14 the appropriation is granted or otherwise transferred in any manner,
15 and any portion of the appropriated money remaining must not be
16 spent for any purpose after September 18, 2009, by either the entity
17 to which the money was appropriated or the entity to which the
18 money was subsequently granted or transferred, and must be
19 reverted to the State General Fund on or before September 18, 2009.

20 **Sec. 5.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2007.

