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HOUSE BILL NO. 878

Offered January 12, 2022

Prefiled January 12, 2022

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Title 32.1 a chapter numbered 13.01, consisting of a section numbered 32.1-353.01, relating to comprehensive health care coverage program.

Patron—Lopez

Referred to Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Title 32.1 a chapter numbered 13.01, consisting of a section numbered 32.1-353.01, as follows:

CHAPTER 13.01.**COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CARE COVERAGE PROGRAM.****§ 32.1-353.01. Comprehensive health care coverage program.**

A. The Department of Medical Assistance Services (the Department) shall establish a program to provide state-funded comprehensive health care coverage for individuals in the Commonwealth who are (i) younger than 19 years of age, 65 years of age or older, or pregnant; (ii) not covered under a group health plan or health insurance coverage; and (iii) but for their immigration status, would be eligible for medical assistance services through the Commonwealth's program of medical assistance services established pursuant to Title XIX and Title XXI of the federal Social Security Act. Such program shall provide comprehensive health care coverage that is consistent with the coverage provided under the state plan for medical assistance services. Services provided through the program shall be provided the same manner and with the same coverage and service limitations as such services are provided under the state plan for medical assistance services.

B. The Department shall establish a centralized processing site for the administration of the program established pursuant to this section, which shall include distribution of program information, robust outreach activities, eligibility determinations, enrollment, and data collection, and may contract with third-party administrators to provide such services and any other administrative services. The program shall also provide for acceptance of applications by local social services agencies, providers, and other appropriate persons.

C. The Department shall ensure that all program information is made available in a manner that is accessible to individuals with limited English proficiency through the provision of language access services, including oral interpretation and written translations, free of charge.

D. The Department shall ensure that information obtained by the program established by this section remains confidential and is not disclosed for any purpose not related to the administration of the program established pursuant to this section.

INTRODUCED

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