

April 12, 2007

H 1476. HEALTH INSURANCE FOR ALL CHILDREN. Filed 4/12/07. *TO ESTABLISH THE CAROLINA CARES FOR CHILDREN HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM.*

Enacts new Subpart 2 of Part 8 of Article 2 of GS Chapter 108A establishing the Carolina Cares for Children Health Insurance Program, administered by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Division of Medical Assistance. The program is open to uninsured North Carolina residents under the age of 19 who are not eligible for Medicaid, Medicare, the State Health Insurance Program for Children, or other federal or state-sponsored insurance, and whose family's income is between 200% and 300% of the federal poverty level. Coverage is available only to the extent that funds are appropriated to fully subsidize coverage for enrollees. Enrollment is for one year, at which time, if funds are available, the applicant may reapply for benefits. Provides for benefits, prescription drug payments, cost-sharing, and premiums under the program. Allows DHHS to pay the costs of coverage under a private insurance plan for persons eligible for coverage under the program if listed conditions are met. Provides an application process, requires DHHS to publicize the program and meet outreach requirements, and allows for appeals from eligibility decisions. Requires DHHS to collect data concerning the program and report annually to the Joint Legislative Health Care Oversight Committee and provide a copy of the report to the Joint Appropriations Subcommittees on Health and Human Services. Makes it a Class I felony to: (1) knowingly make a false statement in an application for coverage with the intent to defraud; (2) knowingly conceal any condition or fact affecting the applicant's eligibility to receive coverage with the intent to defraud; (3) knowingly obtain or assist another person in obtaining money or services to which the person is not entitled or to otherwise misuse a program identification card, with the intent to defraud. Changes the title of Part 8 of Article 2 of GS Chapter 108A from "Health Insurance Program for Children" to "Health Care Coverage for All Children" and designates GS 108A-70.18 through GS 108A-70.28 as Subpart 1 under Part 8.

Appropriates \$4,716,875 for 2007-08 and \$7,006,061 for 2008-09 from the General Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Medical Assistance, to pay the cost of providing coverage under the Carolina Cares for Children Health Insurance Program for families whose income falls between 200% and 300% of the federal poverty level.

Effective July 1, 2007.

Intro. by Insko.

GS 108A, APPROP